Cannock & Rugeley
CHRONICLE
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FANS PITCH IN TO SAVE GAME

REPORT BY TOM OAKLEY

DEFIANT Chasetown FC rallied a small army of determined fans to defy the elements and make sure their match went ahead.

Armed with garden forks, the fans went to work meaning the Scholars' match-up with Romulus was the only fixture in the Evo-Stik South division to still go ahead on Easter Monday.

It looked set to be postponed following a downfall of overnight ran which left pitches across the Midlands waterlogged.

But when the Scholars appealed for volunteers – bearing garden forks – to come forward well over a dozen fans arrived.

They set about getting rid of the water and improving the quality of the Scholars Ground's playing field until the referee was happy for the game to be played.

Chairman Mike Joiner praised the efforts of everyone at the club.

"We were aware of the weather yesterday and arranged to get down at about 8.30am," said Mr Joiner on Monday. "The pitch was waterlogged and it was still chucking it down this morning.

"I said all we can do is get the referee to carry out a pitch inspection, you can't just call a match off.

Fortune

"We started looking at it and thought it could be playable if we worked at it. It's been achieved thanks to the help of the modern technology of emailing and Twitter.

"We had 15 plus people all over the pitch and when the referee arrived he declared it safe to play on."

After checking the pitch the club had sent out the message: "We need your help! We need people with forks to remove the surface water to get today's game on.

"An early inspection says if it stays dry and we can get the surface water off then we have a chance for today's game. Mick Joiner estimates we need 15 to 20 helpers working for 2 hours to get the game on.

"Please help if you are able to."

And help they did – then watched as Chasetown went on to win 2-0.

Stafford Rangers' game away at Stourbridge was among the fixtures to be called off as well as Hednesford Town's home match with Rushall Olympic. Even Walsall FC's match against Bradford City in League One was cancelled.

● Match report – Back Page

Some of the fans – armed with garden forks – who made sure the match went ahead

Fans muck in to help clear the Chasetown pitch

Probe into 'carbon monoxide leak' as woman in her 70s found dead

Police cordon off the scene in Cannock

A WOMAN died and a man was taken to hospital after a suspected carbon monoxide leak in Cannock.

Emergency services were called to a semi-detached house in Old Penkridge Road at 10.20am on Tuesday.

Staffordshire Police say they were alerted following the report of the sudden death of a woman in her 70s.

The death is being treated as unexplained, but it is not believed to be suspicious.

A police spokeswoman said the incident is suspected to be a carbon monoxide leak and a report will be prepared for the coroner.

A West Midlands Ambulance Service spokeswoman said: "When ambulance crews arrived, they found two patients – a man and a woman – who had been removed from the property by the fire service after they were found unresponsive inside. Sadly, the woman was confirmed dead by ambulance staff at the scene.

Ambulance

"The 75-year-old man was already receiving oxygen therapy from the fire service."

The man was taken by ambulance to New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton.

Police say relatives have been informed.

The property has been made safe and an investigation is ongoing.

BUSINESS

Post office on the market for £75k

BURNTWOOD post office has been put up for sale with a £75,000 price tag.

According to estate agent Daltons, the current owner is having to sell the business due to ill health. It has been in Cannock Road for 40 years.

A statement on the Daltons website says: "The business also sells day to day essential items to their clients. The business has a loyal customer base and has been renovated to an exceptionally high standard.

"The turnover generated by the sale of essential products, such as light snacks and beverages, is in excess of £30,000."

TRAINS

Chase Line work 'will be worth it'

TRAIN bosses have assured passengers that engineering work which is causing disruption to Chase Line services will soon pay dividends.

The route between Rugeley Trent Valley and Tame Bridge Parkway was closed for four days at the weekend to pave the way for electrification.

"Although we don't like having to cancel trains, the work will be worth it," Francis Thomas, head of corporate affairs at West Midlands Trains, said.

BANKING

Barclays to close another branch

BARCLAYS in Brook Square, Rugeley, is to close from July 13 due to declining use.

It follows on from the announcement that Barclays at Sankey's Corner in Cannock Road will close on June 8.

Jason Clarke, Barclays community banking director for the area, said: "The way customers undertake their banking is changing as people increasingly use online, telephone and mobile devices."

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CONTENTS

LETTERS	8
CLUB NEWS	11
FOCUS ON . . .	14
TV LISTINGS	24-25
PUZZLES PAGE	27
PROPERTY	28
MOTORING	39
SPORT	51-52

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Fire service merger faces legal challenge

THE legality of a controversial bid to merge fire and police service governance in Staffordshire is being questioned by opponents to the plan.

It follows the go-ahead by the Home Secretary Amber Rudd last week for the Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service to be governed by the county's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).

Now the fire authority is to join with other regions in a similar situation to seek advice from a Queen's Counsel lawyer.

They include West Mercia, Hereford & Worcester and Cambridgeshire fire and rescue services. The current proposals mean that Staffordshire fire and rescue authority – made up of 21 councillors from Staffordshire county and Stoke-on-Trent city councils – will fold, putting at risk 68 jobs in finance, human resources and communication departments.

Authority chairman Stephen Sweeney said 'at least preliminary advice' from a QC into whether the decision was made 'in an appropriate fashion' and whether a judicial review was possible should be sought. Members have given their consent for the initial talks to take place.

Staffordshire PCC Matthew Ellis has insisted that the change to governance would not affect frontline operations and could improve them, ensuring money was directed there instead of administrative services.

The plans are opposed by Staffordshire County Council, Stoke-on-Trent City Council and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority. Mr Ellis has said the changes will be implemented over the 'coming weeks and months'. He claims greater collaboration between the two organisations would improve operations and save £36 million in the coming decade.

Plans for the new arrangements, which will see the two organisations remain independent, are also set to be published.

Lichfield MP Michael Fabricant has welcomed the news, claiming he was 'delighted and relieved' the fire service will come under the PCC's authority.

The fire and rescue authority was paid almost £120,000 last year in allowances and expenses.

Historic church to be a Smokehouse restaurant

A HISTORIC Grade-II listed church will be converted into a restaurant after plans were given the go-ahead.

The 'change of use' application for Cannock United Reformed Church in Stafford Road was submitted to the district council by Chase Smokehouse in January. Last renovated in 2012 when a 'modern conservatory entrance porch' was added, the church was built in 1824.

Councillor Maureen Freeman, who lives near the building, said: "It is good news for Cannock because we need nice restaurants in the town.

"It's a listed building – the most important thing was that there were conditions put on it because it's such a historic building. The building has got a lot of history, and people in Cannock would not want to see anything happen to it. It is a very significant building in the town.

Money

"I had initial concerns about parking on the site but there is a massive car park in the town – it wouldn't have been an issue. For me, I have no objections. The building is quite hidden and you can miss it easily.

"There's been a lot of money spent on it over the years but it's been kept in its original state."

Listed building consent was also granted by the local authority.

Councillor Paul Snape, ward member for Cannock West and leader of the opposition group at the council, said: "I'll always welcome another restaurant if it brings trade to Cannock."

A planning document states: "The sympathetic re-use and enhancement of this nationally important historic building will help to ensure its continued preservation and contribution towards Cannock's local distinctive character."

Cannock United Reformed Church – 'a nationally important historic building' *Photograph: Geoff Pick*

Bus journey marks 10th year of free pass

PENSIONERS celebrated 10 years of free bus passes for senior citizens – by catching the bus to London.

To mark a decade since it was introduced, members of the West Midlands National Pensioners' Convention travelled to London from Walsall using their passes.

They eventually caught the bus into central London to deliver an enormous birthday 'petition' card to 10 Downing Street.

They were joined there by delegates and supporters from other parts of England, and by English MPs and peers. The 'petition' was handed over with the catchline – "On the Tenth Anniversary of the England Bus Pass, we ask HM Government to pledge to retain it unchanged as a universal national entitlement free at the point of use."

Walsall transport campaigner Councillor Richard Worrall of the National Pensioners' Convention Transport Group, said: "The national bus pass is a lifeline for millions of older and disabled citizens. Since its introduction 10 years ago the bus pass has been of huge benefit."

Churches in protest over town march by the EDL

DOZENS of church leaders have signed a letter criticising plans by the English Defence League to march in Walsall on Saturday.

The far-right group demonstration had already been criticised by council chiefs and now 31 church leaders have signed a joint letter saying the protest risks sowing 'greater division' among communities.

Among the signatories are the Bishop of Wolverhampton, the Rt Rev Clive Gregory, the Ven Dr Susan Weller, Archdeacon of Walsall, and Rev Rachel Parkinson – chairman of Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District.

The letter says: "Our calling is one that seeks to bring trust where there is suspicion, and peace in place of fear.

"It is also possible to see this calling being lived out within Walsall's diverse community where further efforts are needed to create healthy cohesion.

"With the news that the English Defence League are planning to demonstrate in our town on April 7, we would like to encourage people to acknowledge the strength brought to Walsall's character by its diverse communities."

Speaking on EDL Radio, Geoff Mitchell said: "We will peacefully do our demonstration – don't like it, lump it.

"We want the numbers and so do the people of Walsall."

Freedom awards for Bev and Bully

SINGER and actress Beverley Knight and former Wolves striker Steve Bull have both been honoured with rare Freedom of the City awards.

Rarely bestowed – Wolverhampton council has granted only 'a handful' of the awards in the last 40 years – the accolades have gone to the celebrity pair for 'loyalty' to their home city.

The council's Conservative group leader Wendy Thompson said: "These two are great ambassadors for Wolverhampton, I think these choices will be extremely popular with residents and their supporters."

Leader of the council Roger Lawrence said: "These two characters have a lengthy and deep association with the city. They are people who care and who make a real contribution."

Cuppa at centre

STAFFORDSHIRE Wildlife Trust will host its monthly coffee morning on April 13. It will run from 10am to midday at The Wolseley Centre, near Rugeley. Visitors can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, and have the opportunity to buy cakes and browse the gifts stall and book stands.

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Margaret's thanks after tumour find by optician

A WOMAN has thanked her optician after a routine test picked up a potentially life-threatening condition.

Margaret O'Reilly, from Pelsall, had not been experiencing any pain or vision problems, but was due to have her regular sight test with Specsavers on Brownhills High Street.

Her test was booked with optometrist Justine Page, and all was proceeding as normal – until Justine spotted a small bump at the back of her right eye.

It was decided this needed further investigation, and she was referred to Birmingham Eye Hospital to have a more detailed examination.

The hospital carried out a number of further tests and took pictures of the inside of the eye – detecting a small ciliary body melanoma, an incredibly rare type of tumour.

Margaret's consultant referred her to the Sheffield Royal Hallam hospital for specialist treatment, where the medical team expressed surprise that the tumour had been picked up by Specsavers as it was very small and hard to detect.

Margaret said: "The tumour was so small, the consultants at Sheffield couldn't decide if it was likely to be malignant but they decided it was best to remove it anyway." And it was lucky that they did as the tumour was malignant and would have spread to other areas within her body.

Anger fails to stop bus services axe

THE withdrawal of a string of Sunday bus services came into play at the weekend – despite an outcry from members of the public.

Following Staffordshire County Council's decision to remove funding for several routes, Arriva took the 'commercial' decision to remove services on Sundays.

A petition on change.org started by Lee Murphy called on the council to reverse its decision to cut funding and was signed by almost 2,000 people.

And almost 800 backed a petition launched by South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson. Services no longer operating on Sundays include the 2E Cannock to Walsall, the 16, the 70 Cannock to Wolverhampton and 76A Stafford to Wolverhampton.

Day in Derbyshire

CHASE Ramblers are going on a seven-mile moderate/strenuous walk to Ecton Hill and Manifold Valley, in Derbyshire this Sunday, meeting at Hednesford rail station car park for a 9am departure. Call 07725 676108.

Fury over fuel prices 'rip-off' at services

BP fuel prices at Hilton Park

MOTORISTS in the West Midlands region have to pay up to 27p more per litre for fuel at motorway services than at nearby filling stations.

MPs and taxi firm bosses are now calling for more to be done to tackle the 'rip-off' pricing at motorway fuel monopolies across Staffordshire and the Black Country.

Research by the Chronicle highlights a huge gulf between petrol and diesel prices on Midland motorways – of up to 27p per litre in some areas.

It comes as Transport Secretary Chris Grayling is urging competition regulators to investigate the UK's three biggest service station operators. Dudley South MP Mike Wood has backed that call, saying more needs to be done to prevent drivers being 'exploited'.

He said: "These service stations are clearly abusing a monopoly – you just need to compare fuel prices at services on a motorway compared to somewhere cheaper like Asda."

At the BP filling station at Hilton Park services on the M6, drivers face paying 139.9p per litre for unleaded and 141.9 for diesel. However, petrol stations at Asda in Cannock and Morrisons in Willenhall – both less than four miles away – are charging 112.7p for unleaded and 113.7p and 114.7p for diesel respectively.

The Norton Canes service station on the M6 Toll charges 138.9p per litre for petrol and 139.9p for diesel.

Price discrepancies have been criticised by a taxi boss. Shaz Saleem, chairman of Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association, said: "I think it's disgraceful. It is clearly a rip-off."

Luke Bosdet of the AA said a near 20p difference was 'ridiculous'.

Staffordshire Day now extended to full week

AN annual day of celebration in honour of Staffordshire's history and traditions has been extended to a week of festivities.

Organisers say they want to give as many people as possible the chance to get involved.

A packed programme of activities has been planned for Staffordshire Day itself – May 1 – and the days before and following, with special music events, spring fairs, film showings, competitions and fun activities on the agenda.

Events will now begin the weekend before, on Saturday, April 28, and run until the weekend after – May 5 and 6.

Alton Towers and the National Memorial Arboretum are among the venues putting on themed events, and all of the county's libraries are organising activities to celebrate the big day, including author visits, quiz nights, local heroes competition, guided tours and arts and crafts activities. At Cannock Library, there will be a spring fair on the first Saturday from 11am to 2pm. Staffordshire artist Mark Lippett will also run a workshop from 10am to 1pm.

Heroes

Burntwood Library will be hosting a fun day with craft activities and the Lego Club, also on the first Saturday, from 11am to 3pm.

Local business heroes will be celebrated at a spring fair at Lichfield Library on the Saturday, from 10am to 2pm.

Councillor Gill Heath, libraries chief on Staffordshire County Council, said: "Our first two Staffordshire Days were a huge success, and this year we hope to make the day even bigger."

The celebration was the initiative of South Staffordshire MP, Gavin Williamson, now Defence Secretary, to pay tribute to the county's history and traditions.

Staffordshire Day was first held in 2016 as it marked the 1,000th anniversary of the first mention of the county of Staffordshire.

Last year, more than 60,000 people attended Staffordshire Day events, generating an estimated £1 million for the county's economy.

For more information about Staffordshire Day go to www.enjoystaffordshire.com/whats-on/staffordshire-day

Councillor Marco Longhi opens the new garden at Ogley Hay Nursery School, with three-year-old Daisy Freeman and nursery assistant Hayley Terry

Nursery garden in VIP launch

CHILDREN at a nursery are enjoying a new sensory garden which has opened after an 18-month project.

The garden at Ogley Hay Nursery was officially opened by Walsall's mayor Councillor Marco Longhi.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was attended by the nursery children, families and staff. Councillor Longhi said: "As mayor, I undertake a big variety of different engagements, but the ones that I find the most fun are with children of all ages.

"Children develop in so many different ways, and here they're developing in a hands-on way other than just being in the classroom."

The whole project has cost around £10,000. The aim is to develop the senses of the children from an early age.

Headteacher Margaret Turley said: "We want to put a big emphasis on learning outside.

"Parents have supported us, helping build a sand pit."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Park gets £78k new equipment

A £78,000 project to install updated equipment at Cannock Park is under way.

It follows a number of complaints regarding the poor state of the equipment.

The project will be funded by money as part of a Section 106 agreement following a housing development in the area.

Councillor Maureen Freeman was delighted that work was 'finally' set to start and said that children in the town 'had deserved better'.

It is expected to take workers about two days to install the new equipment. Work began this week.

Food banks day at supermarket

A CANNOCK superstore is stepping up to give support to the district's food banks.

Sainsbury's will be holding a food donations drive at the store on May 5 and is planning to get staff in to talk to customers about the work carried out by the food banks and what happens to donations.

Customers already donate between 40 and 60kg of tins, packets, cereals and other food items which is collected each week for the Cannock and District food bank to support families in need.

Village prepares for annual fair

A STAFFORDSHIRE village is preparing to host its annual fair – with funds being used to maintain its 11th Century church. Gnosall Carnival, now in its 34th year, raises thousands of pounds for St Lawrence Church.

The event incorporates a 10k run, which this year will be supported by the Asda Foundation Stafford.

To enter the run, go to www.runbritain.com or enter on the day – Saturday, June 16 – or contact race director Bob Middleton on 07969 056939. There are also family fun runs on April 29 and May 20.

Flower demonstration on seasonal favourites

CHESLYN Hay and Great Wyrley Flower Club meets later this month. The meeting, on April 19 at the Salem, High Street, Cheslyn Hay, features Sue Dix on Seasonal Favourites.

It starts at 7.30m. Entrance is £6.50 to include refreshments. Non members are welcome to attend.

For further information ring 01922 413782/477928 or go to the club's website at cheslynhayandgreatwyrleyflowerclub.wordpress.com

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COUNTY NEWS

Majority up for bottle deposits

ALMOST three-quarters of people would be likely to return cans and plastic bottles for recycling if they had to pay a 10p deposit on them, polling suggests.

Deposit return schemes aim to boost recycling and reduce litter by charging a deposit on items such as bottled water or drinks cans which people can redeem when they return the containers to a secure collection point. The most effective deposit return scheme would charge a refundable 10p on "on-the-go" plastic and aluminium drinks containers, a new report by waste and recycling firm SUEZ suggests.

Names wanted for school hero search

UNSUNG heroes within classrooms across the region could be in the running to win a national title. Schools throughout the West Midlands are being called on to put forward nominations for the 2018 Higher Level Teaching Assistant of the Year Awards.

A panel of judges will select a top teaching assistant as the regional winner, who will then be in with a chance of being crowned the country's best.

Nominees, who must be put forward by June 8, need to demonstrate they are committed to pupils' progress, as well as their own professional development. Email alisonpack@bestpracticenet.co.uk for a nomination pack.

One in eight have no private pension

ONE in eight people retiring this year have no private pension savings, a study has revealed.

Some 12 per cent of people planning to retire in 2018 have no private pension of their own, rising to nearly one in five (18 per cent) women, Prudential found. Women retiring this year are more than twice as likely as men to have no private pension of their own to fall back on. Among men retiring this year, seven per cent have no private pension.

Bus firm's million mobile ticket sales

A BUS operator is celebrating after selling a million tickets on mobile phones. National Express West Midlands started selling tickets via mobiles in September 2016 and has recently made its millionth sale.

One in 10 journeys are now bought using the app. Since single tickets were made available on mobiles in January this year, the company has sold has sold almost 100,000 of them.

Spring clean for litter-strewn M-ways

MOTORWAYS around the West Midlands region have been given a spring clean, with thousands of bags of litter being collected.

Highways England has joined with Keep Britain Tidy for the Great British Spring Clean. Around 200,000 bags of litter are collected every year from the nation's motorway network.

Last month, despite the severe weather, teams collected an additional 5,150 bags of litter – including almost 2,000 in the West Midlands, with 25 bags collected on the southbound entry slip of the M6 at junction 10 and the same number on the entry slip at junction four of the M5.

Some of the unusual items collected across the country include bicycles, fridges, settees, wallets and a bin full of rubbish collected from the A1(M).

Highways England's head of customer and operational requirements Freda Rashdi said: "We are pleased to be able to support the Great British Spring Clean by organising litter-picking activities across the country, especially at our key hotspot areas.

"The litter on our roads can cause a hazard to drivers, our workers and wildlife, so I'd urge everyone to keep a bag in their car which they can use for rubbish, and then put it in the bin when they get home to improve the experience of all drivers who use our roads."

Allison Ogden Newton, chief executive at Keep Britain Tidy, said: "It is shocking that people still think it's OK to throw litter from a vehicle, which creates substantial additional cost for Highways England, threatens other road users and harms the wildlife that lives in our roadside verges."

Hitch-hiking cat feline fine after van adventure

Report by Dayna Farrington

A KITTEN had a lucky escape after workmen found it wrapped round the gearbox of their van following a day's work around the region.

The men, who were working for Severn Trent, discovered the female kitten inside their vehicle on the afternoon of March 20, after spending the day travelling between West Bromwich, Pelsall and Burntwood on various jobs.

When the workmen arrived in Burntwood they could hear noises coming from the van. Upon searching the van, they discovered it was the kitten wrapped around the gearbox. They rescued the 14-week-old kitten and kept her with them for the rest of the day. They returned to Pelsall, thinking that was where she may have got into the van and would recognise the area – but the kitten wouldn't leave their van.

Adoption

The 14-week-old kitten is now being cared for by the owner of Kats Cradle, which is based near Albrighton, while the search for her owners continues. If the kitten's owners can't be traced in the next few weeks – then she will be put up for adoption by Kats Cradle.

Kats Cradle owner, Debbie Brookes-Hemans, said: "The two men were on a job – they left West Bromwich at 5am in the morning to go to work over in Pelsall and then over to Burntwood.

"They had no idea when or where the kitten got in, they thought it might be Pelsall but they could not be sure."

Debbie and her son, eight-year-old Ethan, are now caring for the kitten at their home in Coven, near Wolverhampton. They have now called the kitten Minnie, while the search continues.

Anyone who recognises the kitten, or knows her owners, are asked to call Debbie at Kats Cradle on 07944 105033.

The kitten with Ethan Brookes-Hemans, aged eight, son of Debbie who runs Kats Cradle, near Wolverhampton

Ale fans limbering up for pubs sprint

REAL ALE enthusiasts are invited to spring into action to take part in a pub sprint – rather than a crawl – around pubs in the Cannock Chase district.

Camra's Cannock Chase branch has launched this year's annual Spring Sprint.

Fifteen pubs are taking part in the trail organised by the Campaign for Real Ale group and those taking part have until April 30 to complete the sprint. Forms can be picked up from any of the participating pubs and completed during the trail. Those taking part could win a Camra polo shirt.

Trail

The pubs and clubs on the trail are, in Cannock, The Newhall Arms, Crystal Fountain, St Mary's Social Club and Linford Arms.

In Rugeley there is the Vine Inn, Rusty Barrel and the Plaza. Pubs taking part in Hednesford are The Bridge Inn and Hedgeford Lodge, while in Heath Hayes there is the Five Ways pub.

Completing the trail are The Colliers Arms in Cheslyn Hay, Sankey's Tap House in Burntwood, Miners Rest and Uxbridge Arms in Chasetown and the Royal Oak in Great Wyrley. For more information visit www.cannockchase.camra.org.uk

Police vow to bridge the pay gap on gender

STAFFORDSHIRE Police has vowed to ensure the gender pay gap is bridged 'as far as it can be'.

Figures released by the force – as part of an annual national requirement under the Equality Act 2010, for all organisations employing more than 250 people – show a 13.4 per cent pay gap between women and men working in the organisation.

The national average across all employers is just over 18 per cent.

Justine Kenny, Staffordshire Police Director of People and Resources said the force was working hard to close the gap. She said: "Although we are pleased that the force is below the national average, we aren't complacent and are currently taking a number of proactive steps to ensure the gap is bridged as far as it can be."

She added: "There are a number of reasons for the pay difference, many of which are outside of the control of the force and relate to education, society, the economy, and the culture we live in. Those issues can't be solved overnight and there is no quick fix.

"Within the force though, we know there are statistically more male police officers in the force and more men in senior positions, and this of course makes our pay gap on the whole wider.

"When broken down into officers and staff though, because of the way the formula works, the picture looks quite different – 3.6 per cent for officers and 5.7 per cent for staff.

Justine added: "Although our gender pay is below the national average, we know we have some work to do to bridge this gap."

Homebase owner looks for a buyer

WESFARMERS, the Australian owner of Homebase, is approaching potential buyers, two years after a disastrous £340 million takeover.

It is working with investment bankers Lazard to review options for the chain of nearly 250 stores which include sites in Cannock, Kidderminster, Oldbury and Wolverhampton.

Wesfarmers has already cleared out the managerial team after buying the firm in 2016 and replaced them with an all-Australian leadership team, but this has failed to turn it around.

Homebase made a £97m loss before tax over the second half of last year and Wesfarmers was forced to write-down the value of the UK business by £550m. The most likely outcome of the review is expected to be an outright sale of the business.

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Housing bid approved at last for site of police HQ

A HOUSING estate on the site of the former Staffordshire Police headquarters has been given the green light – after eight years of wrangling.

The decision to approve plans for 141 homes off the A34 Cannock Road at Baswich has been widely welcomed by county councillors. It includes the go-ahead for a £30,000 study of the A34 route after concerns were raised over potential traffic problems.

The 16-acre site has stood empty since February 2010.

County council leader Patrick Farrington, who represents Baswich, said the land had an extensive planning history, which at one time included a scheme for 230 homes.

"That is significantly more than the current proposal," he said.

"The other good thing is the mix of homes with a good offering of affordable housing, which is particularly welcome at the south end of Stafford."

The scheme prompted concern about an increase in traffic on Cannock Road and in the Weeping Cross area – and extra pressure on schools and medical centres.

Councillor Ray Barron, representing the Wildwood and Weeping Cross ward, who 'called in' the application, said: "I would have really liked an improvement to the two islands at the top of Radford Bank and to have seen the Cannock Road entrance improved."

Success of fun run delights teachers

MORE than 1,500 pupils and staff took part in a charity fun run at a Brownhills school.

The event at Shire Oak Academy was the idea of teacher Rachel Cheek, who is running the London Marathon.

Further activities helped raise thousands of pounds for three charities.

Mrs Cheek was inspired to raise cash after her father was diagnosed with prostate cancer.

She said: "We decided to put on a fundraising day for three charities, as myself and vice-principal Neal Critchley are running the marathon for Macmillan Cancer Support and Mind.

"Everyone at the school has been supporting me and then we decided to do a huge Run for Life for Cancer Research UK."

Solo performance

A SINGER and bassist performs solo in Lichfield next month. Miranda Sykes, from Show of Hands, is at The Guildhall, Lichfield on April 27, from 8pm. Tickets are £12. Call 01543 262223 or visit lichfieldarts.org.uk

Going cuckoo at birds thriving on Chase

Cuckoos are doing well on the Chase

CUCKOOS and willow warblers are doing better on Cannock Chase than in many parts of the UK, a survey has revealed.

A five-month investigation of the beauty spot by volunteers from the West Midland Bird Club also discovered that good heathland management practice supported species such as nightjars, woodlarks and tree pipits.

The Chase is good for breeding common crossbills and siskins, although the survey, between February and the end of July last year, recommends an increase in nest box schemes to support woodland species. It also advises geolocators be fitted to a small number of cuckoos to confirm their migratory routes from and to Staffordshire and West Africa and beyond. Only the numbers of nesting redstarts and willow tits on the Chase had fallen.

The survey comes as birds in the county are starting to get active at the arrival of spring after a bitterly cold winter, including snow in March.

The Staffordshire Wildlife Trust report 'significant' bird interest across their reserves including nearly 40 breeding species of endangered birds, featuring charismatic species such as the cuckoo, curlew and lapwing.

This month, the trust's monitoring officers and volunteers will be heading out into the field to collect vital data on the breeding birds on Staffordshire's wildlife sites.

Activities will vary from general surveys looking at the variety of species and what areas they are using, to specific targeted surveys for particular species such as the willow tit and wading birds which are already under way.

50 schools given share of £83m revamp fund

NEARLY 50 schools in Staffordshire and the Black Country will receive part of an £83.5 million fund to revamp their tatty buildings.

The Department for Education cash has been pledged to improve decrepit facilities, remove asbestos and extend existing premises.

Hundreds of schools in the region will get £83.5m, with 48 schools in the Black Country and Staffordshire set to benefit. The funding is part of £514m being allocated to improve and expand the facilities of schools in England.

The Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) will support 1,556 projects across almost 1,300 academies and sixth-form colleges to help improve the conditions of, or expand, facilities. Schools submitted bids for funding last year.

A total of 27 schools in Staffordshire will get funding. Among them are Churchfield CofE Primary Academy in Cannock Chase, which will use its funding for roof repairs, and Perton Primary Academy, which is running a safeguarding and site security project.

Transform

Lord Agnew, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the School System, said: "All children deserve the best possible education, and state-of-the-art facilities are a big part of that.

"This funding will transform the condition of school buildings and help our best schools to expand, creating more good school places for families in the West Midlands and raising standards for pupils.

"This will build on the hard work of teachers and our reforms, which have resulted in 1.9 million more children being taught in good or outstanding schools than in 2010."

The CIF is an annual funding allocation for which academies and sixth-form colleges are invited to apply. In addition to improving the quality of school facilities, the fund also enables 'good' or 'outstanding' schools to expand where required. Since 2010, 825,000 new school places have been created as schools battle to cater for a growing population.

The cash includes £38m for projects supported by the Healthy Pupils Capital Fund, drawn from the Soft Drinks Industry Levy.

Band rock their way to Iconic victory

The Icon have made the grand final of the Soundwaves Music Competition

THEY had to wait for their chance but when it came, young rockers The Icon grabbed it with both hands.

The group, whose members are from Penkridge, Wolverhampton and Kingswinford, have reached the grand final of the Soundwaves Music Competition after snow forced the postponement of the original regional final. Thanks to their triumph at the O2 Academy in Liverpool – where the boys are now based – they are one step closer to reaching their goal of becoming a high-profile touring band.

Frontman Tom Harrison, aged 19, from Penkridge, said: "It was great to see all the fans that came up to support us in Liverpool. We hope to see you in Birmingham, message the band for tickets."

To compete in the competition The Icon had to endure several audition stages and a tough video stage.

The grand final at Birmingham's O2 Academy is pencilled in for June 9.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hundreds of rough sleepers in court

MORE than 700 homeless people have been dragged before courts in the West Midlands over the last four years for rough sleeping.

New figures show the region has the second highest rate in the country when it comes to enforcing a centuries-old law which bans vagrancy.

Across the West Midlands 739 people were arrested and charged under the legislation – the second highest outside London – according to figures from a Freedom of Information request.

It comes as the Lib Dems called for the repeal of the Vagrancy Act, which dates back to the time of George IV.

Drivers are told to expect delays

DRIVERS have been told to expect delays while part of a busy road is closed for three weeks to allow for roadworks to be carried out.

Main Road in Brereton will be shut one way, heading away from Rugeley town centre, until April 20 while Staffordshire County Council carries out work there.

The closure, next to Brereton Town Football Club, will be in place on one side of the carriageway, while traffic lights will be installed on the other side, heading towards Rugeley town centre.

Police in appeal on vehicle thefts

POLICE are appealing for information after three cars were stolen from a dealership in Cannock.

Crooks smashed the lock on the barrier at Depper MGS, Watling Street, on March 27. There is no CCTV of the incident.

In a separate incident, a motorbike was taken from car manufacturing plant Gestamp Tallent, on Wolverhampton Road in the town.

Anyone with information on either incidents is asked to call 101, quoting either serial number 422 or 435 of March 27.

Artwork on display in annual exhibition

ARTISTS' work is on show in Cannock until the end of the month.

Heath Hayes Art Society is putting on its annual exhibition at Cannock Library, in Manor Avenue. It runs until April 30. Most paintings on display are for sale. Call chairman Lynda Humphries on 01543 425601 if interested.

The group was formed more than 35 years ago and meets weekly with a membership of 25.

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Litter louts just tip me over the edge

WHICH crime has the biggest impact on your life? Murder? Knife crime, drugs?

While these are clearly very serious, they are offences that thankfully affect very few of us on a daily basis. What really affects me, day in, day out is not violent crime, but litter. With graffiti coming a very close second.

The most infuriating thing is that there is no justification or mitigation for committing these offences. Nobody ever drops litter because they are poor or hungry. It is never a crime of passion or a moment of madness. It is always, without exception, a crime committed because the offender is too arrogant and self-centred to give a thought for anybody but themselves.

A couple of weeks ago I saw a young lad drop litter in the town centre, and was secretly bricking it as I pointed out his misdemeanour in front of his rowdy friends. A few years ago, I watched a young girl toss a fast-food carton out of the car window while stuck in traffic, and did what any responsible member of the public would do - and tossed it back in. I regretted when her mother tried to pull the mirror off my car and chased me for two miles, but I guess you've gotta make a stand.

So I suppose I should be glad that our local councils are promising to crack down on litter louts with "zero-tolerance" hit squads, but I have my doubts. Dudley is now following the lead of Wolverhampton by using the services of Kingdom Security, which issues miscreants with spot fines. Better still, the wardens cost the councils nothing, as Kingdom makes its money from the fines. Everyone's a winner, right?

It didn't quite work that way when Kingdom officers were employed in Maidstone, Kent. The council dispensed with Kingdom's services last year after a woman was fined for feeding ducks in the River Medway. In The Wirral, Kingdom wardens fined David Ellis for unknowingly dropping a bookmark from his book. In Ruthin, North Wales, 68-year-old Ann Coleman was fined £75 for accidentally dropping a receipt.

Maybe this is a price worth paying if it stops the real louts from dropping litter in the street, but I won't hold my breath. Private litter wardens are driven by revenue, and it is hard to see them challenging a gang of bona-fide yobs throwing down chip papers when they get paid the same for fining a little old lady feeding the ducks.

Zero tolerance is rarely the answer. It's throwing the book at hardened louts that gets results.

This crime of our age is not going to go away

Mary Berry – accused of 'fat shaming' after comment on the size of fellow chef

Nathan Outlaw – laughed off comment amount his weight but some took umbrage

Sir Stephen Hillier – and now even Air Chief Marshals are looking younger

Fat chance of no bitterness shown

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

SLENDER Mary Berry stands accused of "fat shaming" after commenting on the size of fellow chef Nathan Outlaw. She suggested that Nathan, a keen surfer, would put "a bit of weight on that board." He laughed it off but some viewers took instant umbrage and accused Berry of rudeness. Fat-shaming is a crime of our age and you might think an enlightened society would eventually shun it. But I don't think it will go away. I bet fat-shaming will increase – and this is may be the reason why. There is serious talk of the Government raising a special ring-fenced tax exclusively to pay for the health service. This means, for the first time, we will all see in our wage packets how much of our hard-earned money is going to the NHS. Obesity costs the NHS about £16,000 million a year. Some experts believe it could eventually bankrupt the NHS. See how some bitterness might creep in? You can just hear it – you're wasting my money, fatso.

FUNNY old world. I always assumed I voted to leave the EU in 2016 because I am a bit dim, poorly educated and dislike foreigners. I learn from this week's revelations to the Commons media committee that I actually voted for Brexit because my personal data had been secretly "mined" from Facebook and used to bombard me with subliminal online messages (even though I'm not on Facebook). This is good news for it means I am no longer an imbecile but a victim. So tell me where do I get my compensation?

FOR somebody who isn't anti-semitic, doesn't Jeremy Corbyn does seem to spend an awful lot of time apologising for anti-semitism?

BUT then it's understandable. Right at the heart of the Labour movement is total, unwavering support for the Palestinian cause and a visceral hatred of international capitalism. If some mischief-maker whispers into the ear of a dedicated young activist that the Zionists are the enemy in both these epic struggles, it can seem to make sense. The "pockets of anti-semitism" Jeremy Corbyn apologises for today are actually part of a contagion of blaming the Jews which has infested Europe for more than 1,000 years.

A GLUM report by the World Wide Fund for Nature calculates that making a single portion of Welsh lamb cawl stew causes as much pollution as driving 31 miles, or 5.9 kilograms of greenhouse gases. I don't know how you reacted to this news but it reminded me how long it had been since I'd had a bowl of delicious, thick lamb stew. Stuff the planet, I want my cawl. So that's definitely on the menu for tomorrow. Thanks for the reminder, WWF. Just the occasional treat, you understand.

THE "just a treat" philosophy can be seen everywhere this week. Yes, of course we want an end to overpackaging with plastic. But not until Easter is over, okay? The supermarket aisles are packed with chocolate eggs framed in single-use black plastic trays, wrapped in foil then wrapped again in more black plastic and see-through plastic, enough to choke a whole colony of turtles. The excuse for this orgy of planet-polluting excess is that Easter comes only once a year and what's the harm with the occasional treat? The same argument is trotted out for Bonfire Night when all our pious words about having air that's fit to breathe vanish into a sulphurous cloud of fireworks and burning pallets. It's just a treat, innit? Like the cupcakes handed out at charity coffee mornings: let's fight cancer by giving everybody diabetes. The problem with the "just a treat" approach is that we want our treats every day of the year. And the more that po-faced experts warn us of the consequences, the more delicious that treat seems.

THE Royal Air Force is celebrating its 100th anniversary and its chief officer Sir Stephen Hillier is doing the media rounds to promote the event. As we reach a certain age we get used to police, MPs, headteachers and bishops seeming unnaturally youthful. I hadn't noticed until this week that Air Chief Marshals are looking younger.

I SEND as few emails as possible. I never text. I don't use social media. And yet, oh folly, in an unguarded moment I recently sent a friend an image of my lunch, cleverly re-arranged into a cheerful face with a big pastie nose and a smile of roast potatoes. As you do. Goodness knows what the global data-filching industry will make of this. Clearly Citizen Rhodes enjoys pasties and has an artistic bent, and too much time on his hands.

TALKING of iconic animals, I cannot be the only person alarmed to see the burger chain McDonald's has a promotional partnership with the makers of the new Peter Rabbit film. Run, Peter! For God's sake, run!

TALKING POINT

TV choice is what you want not everything

I REMEMBER when you could put a telly anywhere in the house and you would get some kind of signal, before you even put some kind of aerial in the back of it.

What's happened to those days? It was so simple. Buy a TV, maybe a portable, fiddle about with the dials a bit and the aerial on top and hey presto! instant access to four, or maybe even five channels.

Having switched over to digital – without any public consultation that I can remember, or maybe I just didn't understand the concept – I'm sure I am not alone when I say the service is useless in comparison.

My household pays for Sky, we have it plugged into two TVs, via cumbersome cables, straight from the dish. But even then it's sometimes hit and miss as to the quality of the picture, and we don't exactly live out in the sticks.

Try to get a signal without any direct input from the supplier – ie with a portable aerial which I now seem to have a boxful of because they're all useless – and you're on a hiding to nothing.

Yes, there's Netflix, or Amazon firesticks, or whatever they're called – fine if you can afford it on top of the costs of a generic provider, but hold on, don't we all pay a TV licence?

I yearn for the days when it was simply a matter of turning on one little switch and not worrying about scrolling down hundreds of channels and wading through countless second-rate moralistic American police-based dramas, or the constant re-runs of Only Fools and Horses.

I'm not even going to mention 15-year-old Top Gear shows, where the cars they feature have long-since been put out to pasture in some great scrapyard in the sky.

It is a salient observation, but we have now reached absolute saturation point with the communications and entertainments available to us via the screen, which once was just a box in the corner blasting out programming, with the only choice being whether you could put up with advert breaks or not.

I mean, if we have any say in it at all, can't we demand that if we don't want external services such as Sky, and want to rely purely on Freeview, isn't it enough that there is a TV licence fee?

Alternatively, why should we have to pay for a licence, if we don't watch anything other than programmes via Netflix, Sky or Amazon etc.

There needs to be a change now, choice doesn't mean having everything available, it means cutting out what you don't want and concentrating purely on what you do want.

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Web safety questioned in writer's internet intrigue

AN author has delved into the darker side of the internet for her latest novel – five years after winning a publishing contract with Mills & Boon.

Anouska Knight was thrust into the spotlight when she won a national writing competition on ITV's Lorraine.

Her debut Since You've Been Gone became a best-seller and she went on to shift more than 100,000 copies of her first three books, published in 15 different languages.

The 38-year-old's latest story Perfect Strangers, has been inspired by her own observations on both the internet and social media as well as her concerns about her children's safety online.

"It's a little darker, a little more suspenseful and a little less happy-ever-after," says Anouska, who lives near Rugeley with her husband Jim and three sons Rad, aged 13, Loch, 11, and Jesse, three.

Latest novel Perfect Strangers

Anouska appearing on Lorraine

Anouska Knight with her latest novel, written under the pen name Erin

Laptops

"There are these internet trolls who hide behind their laptops and think it's fine to say whatever they want because it's anonymous. The internet is a double-edged sword, it's a wonderful resource but it's not always being used for good.

"As a mum, particularly a mum to a teenager, it's terrifying. You want to give them some freedom but at the same time it's very frightening what they can be exposed to. That's what spawned the idea behind Perfect Strangers."

Perfect Strangers, published by HQ, follows three women in a sleepy Cornish town who find themselves drawn into precarious situations online, from fake identities, private photos and secrets uploaded as revenge.

As the plot is quite complex with stories intertwining it required more advance planning than her previous books.

Another big difference with her latest book is that the author's name on the front cover is now Erin Knight after she changed her pen name to acknowledge the shift in direction her writing had taken. Anouska, who ran her own baking company Nouskie Noo's, in Bromley Hayes, before becoming a writer, is currently renovating he family's Victorian home.

● Perfect Strangers is out now and available from bookshops and Amazon. For further details see www.anouskaknight.com

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Appeal over photographs

I AM compiling a 'memory book' for my son. Does anyone have photos of groups or events at the Wolverhampton Teachers College for Day Students between 1966 and 69 that I could borrow, to copy and return?

Contact me at 40 Ellesmere Road, WS11 1PJ or on 07572 661706.

D BURDEN
Cannock

Fire station tidy-up call

I WALKED back from Cannock town centre through the fire station and was appalled at the condition of the grounds. It looks very unloved rubbish about and the gardens need attention.

Please don't let one of our valuable community areas be allowed to deteriorate.

MRS P BULLOCK
Cannock

Setting record straight on reply to 'done deal' claim

WITH regard to the letter 'No suggestion of a 'done deal' on homes (Chronicle, March 29) I am reiterating my interpretation and report of the meeting concerning the land on Bleak House where a brochure has been produced to suggest taking the area out of the Green Belt.

I was at the meeting and do not recall any resident claiming this was a 'done deal' that 1,000 houses are being built.

The meeting was in fact a series of presentations mostly made up of Green Party members. During the questions some residents directly stated an accusation of 'scaremongering' to the organisers.

There were also representatives from the planning committee on the floor, who were not invited to speak. Questions had to be submitted in writing before the meeting.

As the Labour candidate for Rawnsley in the local elections, I have knocked many doors and have met residents fearful of this development and some who have the impression building work is imminent.

They say they have come to this conclusion from the leaflets received from the Greens. Very often being told that there is no plan or planning permission has been enough to alleviate some acute anxiety for residents.

AARON BATE
Wimblebury

Sunday bus axe will leave many isolated

OVER the Easter weekend Sunday bus services covering in Cannock Chase came to an end, thanks to Conservative cuts.

This is the first time in 100 years that this has happened. Not everyone has access to a car and many people will be left isolated.

Local Tory MPs, Gavin Williamson and Amanda Milling, fresh from voting to take free school meals from some of the poorest children, have protested against the scrapping of Sunday bus services.

The only people who are silent are our local Conservative county councillors who voted for the cut.

GEORGE ADAMSON
Cannock

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
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EMAIL
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the

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If we cannot reach a resolution contact Ipso at complaints@ipso.co.uk or by post at Ipso, c/o Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, London, EC4M 7LG

Chemo ward staff praised

IN this world of blame and claim I would like to thank the staff of the chemotherapy ward at Cannock Chase Hospital for their dedication and care they have shown my wife.

During the last 30 years my wife has had four periods of cancer.

She is very upbeat, and she is still fighting.

Please keep up the good work, and we will beat it.

MR M MARTIN
Hednesford

Tours will take in site of historic battlefield

THIS year marks the centenary of the signing of the armistice in the forest of Compiégne in northern France that ended the First World War.

A memorial site covers the treaty area near the tiny village of Rethondes. There is also a statue of Marshal Foch who convened armistice talks.

During the Second World War, a second armistice was signed in the forest between France and Nazi Germany. Today, the site remains as a memorial to both major world events, and hosts a museum which houses a replica of the original railway carriage in which the treaties were signed.

From June 22, Midlands-based research group Battlefield Memorial Tours are taking a coach party to the historic site, also taking in a number of key sites on the Ypres Salient, Belgium, and in the Somme area of northern France.

Call Malcolm Payne on 07850 775723 or Brian Long on 01629 650780 or see www.battlefieldmemorialtours.co.uk

JOHN PHILLPOTT
Battlefield Memorial Tours

Solution to potholes

IF everyone refused to pay the so-called road tax, we would all be fined, then all the fine revenue could be used to pay for repairing the potholes and what's left over can go to boost MPs' pensions which they deserve for their dedication to their supporters. Job done. Easy peasy, yes?

MR P EVANS
Great Wyrley

Heroic rescue of pilot earns commendation

A MAN who helped save a pilot's life after his aircraft crashed into a field has been recognised for his bravery.

Chris Lamb, from Stafford, was out cycling when he, and an off duty nurse, spotted a light aircraft crash into a field near Blithfield Reservoir, Abbots Bromley on August 28 2017.

It was initially difficult to find the crashed plane due to the tall maize in the field, but Mr Lamb and the nurse shouted to the pilot from the edge of the field to find him.

When they located the plane they faced a dangerous rescue situation. The seriously injured pilot was amid the smoking wreckage which was leaking fuel.

Danger

Recognising the immediate danger of fire, Mr Lamb pulled the pilot away before working with the nurse to give him first aid care.

Together with other cyclists, they worked to stabilise his fractures and strapped him to a section of fencing, using a belt and cycle inner tubes.

The group carried the immobilised pilot to the air ambulance landing site. It is believed he is still receiving treatment after undergoing extensive surgery.

Mr Lamb was awarded a commendation during a Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service ceremony at Uttoxeter Community Fire Station. The off duty nurse was also commended but was unable to attend the event.

Toby Wilson, southern service delivery group manager at Staffordshire Fire and Rescue, said: "Thanks to the quick-thinking actions of these strangers his life was saved."

Chief Fire Officer Becci Bryant, Chris Lamb, and Group Manager Toby Wilson

£5m boost to help families

HARD-UP families in Staffordshire can get help before they reach 'crisis point' thanks to a £5m funding boost.

Staffordshire County Council has been handed the cash by the Government to support its 'Building Resilient Families and Communities' scheme.

This supports families by helping parents in to work,children back to school or aims to reduce involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour. It has also expanded to deal with problems including domestic violence, debt, poor health and where children are at risk of being taken into care. More than 3,500 families have been helped so far by the Staffordshire scheme.

Councillor Mark Sutton, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "This money will help us make a real difference to lives of parents, children and their wider families."

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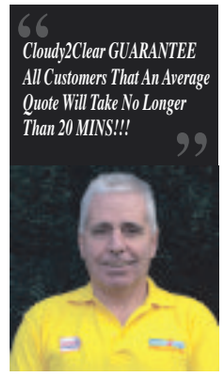

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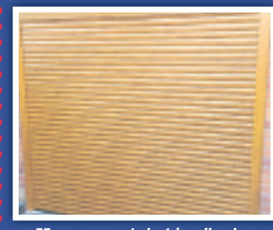

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Three move up at estate agents

ESTATE agents Savills has announced three promotions within its Lichfield office. Chris Hodson has been promoted to director level, Dan Hawkes has moved up to be associate director and Jess Cartwright has taken on the role of associate.

Stephen Spencer, head of office at Savills Lichfield, said: "I would like to congratulate all three."

Easter egg joy for youngsters

MORE than 70 Easter eggs were collected by coach Evey Thomas and her Cannock Weight Watchers members.

They were donated to Snap, Special Needs Adventure Playground to bring cheer to the youngsters that use the facility.

Evey said: "Members were delighted they could buy for others who may be going without."

Residents' group chairman thanked

ESTATE groups across Cannock Chase attended the final consultation meeting of the Chase Tenants' and Residents' Federation.

As a thank you, chairman Anne Ames was presented with a bouquet by Tom Dawson, chairman of Spectrum Residents' Association, and a buffet will be laid on in her honour.

Great War workshops

YOUNG people will say 'Thank You' to the First World War generation through a day of free workshops, as part of The Royal British Legion's national movement, at the National Memorial Arboretum on July 11.

MP gives backing to £2m pothole funding

A £2.2 million windfall from the Government to fix potholes on Staffordshire's roads has been welcomed by Chase MP Amanda Milling.

Transport secretary Chris Grayling announced the additional funding last week.

It comes on top of the extra £5.5 pledged by Staffordshire County Council on potholes and preventative treatments this year. The authority says roads were badly damaged during a recent bad spell of wintry weather and the Cannock Chase Conservative MP described the investment as 'essential' for local roads to be brought up to an acceptable standard.

She said: "I am contacted on a daily basis by constituents concerned about potholes.

Quickly

"The recent wintry weather has caused some extensive potholes and considerable damage to many road surfaces across Cannock Chase. It is essential that Staffordshire County Council act quickly and use this Government funding to bring our worst pothole filled roads up to an acceptable standard."

The MP has long lobbied Staffordshire County Council about the state of the roads around Cannock Chase and pushed, in particular, for repairs to Hill Top roundabout in Hednesford, Church Road in Norton Canes and Five Ways Island in Wimblebury. Following numerous complaints Market Street in Rugeley has recently been resurfaced.

Ms Milling added: "Real progress has been made over the last year in terms of significant road repairs in locations. I was pleased to see Market Street resurfaced as it was in a terrible state of repair.

"Whilst progress has been made there is more work to do so the new funding announced by the Government is great news."

You beauty! Students in beast of a show

Some of the Beauty and the Beast cast members

TALENTED students in Hednesford delighted audiences with a production of Beauty and the Beast.

The cast, from Staffordshire University Academy, performed to audiences of more than 1,000, including in excess of 200 primary school pupils, who enjoyed matinee performances on March 19 and 20.

Following sell-out evening performances, an additional performance was added on March 23, due to popular demand and feedback.

Students rehearsed intensely since October, including weekends and some holidays. Sets were built, costumes and make-up designed and merchandise created.

Director, head of creative arts faculty, Esther Humpage, said: "I am so proud to have been part of this process."

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Vintage tea party most enjoyable

Shareshill WI

WELCOMING everyone to the meeting president Margaret Beddard said it hardly seemed five minutes since the enjoyable vintage tea party and thanked everyone who contributed and worked so hard to make it such a lovely occasion.

Best wishes go to Ann Shutt for a speedy recovery from her knee operation. Since last meeting Cheryl, Pauline, Lynn and Margaret represented the WI at the county quiz.

The Heathside Group meeting on March 1 was cancelled due to the weather but the WI will host a "Next One" fashion show at the Village Hall on April 12. The next day is a trip to the Black Country Museum.

Cannock WI is organising a visit to Denman College on June 11 and Shareshill have been invited.

After secretary Sue Davidson brought everyone up to date with correspondence and news of events around the county the speaker for the evening, Daniel Roberts from South Staffs District Council Waste Management, gave a fascinating insight into what happens to all the rubbish and recycling collected by his department and some of the difficulties the workforce encounter during their daily duties.

Margaret thanked Daniel and his colleague Lucy for such an interesting and thought-provoking evening.

Coffee morning aids playground funds

From left, president Val Jones, Snap chairman Bob Heighway and Soroptimist Trish Mellor

AT the last business meeting of her year as president, Val Jones was delighted to present a cheque for £515 to Snap, Special Needs Adventure Playground in Cannock. Bob Heighway, Snap chairman, went along to the meeting to receive the cheque.

The money was raised at a coffee morning at the home of Soroptimist Trish Mellor. She thanked everyone for their incredible generosity which enabled them to raise such a fantastic sum. Bob told members he was amazed at the amount they had raised and expressed the gratitude of everyone who uses the facility on Pye Green Road.

SI Cannock & District

Bob said they rely on donations such as this one to enable them to continue to operate.

Cannock Soroptimists have supported the facility for a number of years and many members have visited on several occasions.

President Val assured Bob that their support of Snap would continue in the future.

Easter egg prize for beetle drive

Hednesford A TWG

THE chairman opened the last meeting welcoming everyone including guests Kathleen Myatt and Marion Willis.

Happy birthday was sung to those celebrating with a special mention to Yvonne Rowley who turns 80.

Four members took part in the federation quiz and enjoyed the evening.

The outings secretary has again booked Alvaston Hall for Christmas. After all the guild business, members enjoyed hot cross buns with their coffee followed by a beetle drive.

An Easter egg was presented to the winner Chris Eccleshall. Meetings are on the second Monday each month at St Peters Church Hall Hednesford.

Details from Doreen on 01543 877987.

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Budding police officer pens poem to force chief

A YOUNG girl with big dreams of becoming a police officer when she grows up has sent a heart-warming poem to Staffordshire Police Chief Constable, Gareth Morgan.

Eleanor Lester's poem was presented to Mr Morgan by Staffordshire Police lead chaplain Stephen Parker, along with Rev Glynne Watkin, vicar of St John's Church, Heath Hayes and Rev Nest Bateman, police chaplain for Cannock.

The 10-year-old, of Wimblebury, was invited to the Staffordshire Police HQ in Stafford where she met up with the Chief Constable and given a tour of the building.

Eleanor's mum Kerry said; "We are totally overwhelmed that Eleanor's poem was so well received by the Chief Constable of Staffordshire Police. Eleanor is quite simply on Cloud Nine.

Dreams

"For as many years as I can remember, Eleanor has insisted she will be a Pc when she grows up, an aspiration she has never wavered from since her very first 'Police Dress-Up' outfit. She would love to join the Junior Police Cadets as the first step to fulfilling her dreams."

Mr Morgan wished the youngster his best in her prospects to become a police officer. He said: "Eleanor's poem was a delight to read and was inspirational, humorous and ambitious.

"It was great to hear from her and I wish Eleanor every success with her future plans to become a police officer."

Mr Parker said: "The poem was part of a thanksgiving service for Staffordshire Police. During the service it was humbling to witness such a desire by young people to engage with, and serve their community. This is epitomised by Eleanor's poem, well done."

If the cap fits . . . Eleanor Lester meets the Chief Constable

Eleanor's impressive poem

My name is Eleanor and I am ten,
I would love to be in the police force,
So I have picked up my pen,
And I am writing a poem to explain why,
So criminals of Cannock you better not lie.

Be warned I do karate,
To keep baddies at bay,
To make sure the streets are safe day after day.
If there is a mystery to be solved,
Then WPC Lester will get involved.

Helpful, brave, considerate and kind.
Heroic, friendly and inquisitive of mind,
I have written this poem to show you all how I rhyme,
And to show how in the future,
I will help you stop crime.

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By Post – Express and Star/Cannock Chronicle, Queens Square, Cannock, WS11 1WA
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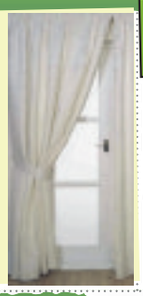

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Acts include Stan Webb's Chicken Shack, Steve Ajao's 'Blues Giants', The Shooters, Sara Gillespie Quartet, Walsall Jazz Orchestra, Three Step Manoeuvre and Lichfield's Funkiest, Grooviest Big Band Blast Off, with many more names to be confirmed.

The ever-popular King Pleasure & the Biscuit Boys will round off proceedings on the Sunday night.

The main venues will be Lichfield Guildhall and the Cathedral Hotel. Visit www.lichfield-jazz.co.uk for more.

Rail staff keep work on track

AN 'orange army' of railway employees have ensured a canal trust's work to create a wetlands area is still on track.

Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust wants to complete the area as part of a plan for a nature reserve at Fosseway Heath. Work began following a £18,500 handout from the Postcode Local Trust, a grant-giving body funded by players of People's Postcode Lottery.

Network Rail's 'orange army' who built 57 metres of new towpath

Towpath

In the past two weeks, 2,500 tonnes of clay and sandy soil have been moved to build a 100 metre diversion of the Lichfield Canal channel and towpath, while the Network Rail volunteers worked through appalling weather conditions to build 57 metres of new towpath, which was opened at the end of the day for the many regular users from the local community.

A new boardwalk is also taking shape through the wetlands area.

The trust's engineering director Peter Buck said: "This first Network Rail corporate volunteer day was a great success and the trust will build on the work undertaken by this great team.

"We look forward to seeing the many new friends made from Network Rail for a return visit in the summer."

The trust's own volunteers have dismantled the old canal wall in the wetlands area, built a new towpath wall and installed a boardwalk to allow visitors to walk through the wetlands.

The trust says the reserve will play an important role in enhancing an established plan to recreate Staffordshire's rare lowland heathland, providing another stepping stone for improving biodiversity.

The reserve will incorporate a properly surfaced heritage towpath trail, giving improved access for all, especially those from the existing and proposed further housing developments near the site, and a circuit will provide disabled and push-chair friendly access.

MPs' backing for move to merge services

MPS have backed moves move to combine governance of Staffordshire police and the fire and rescue services.

Matthew Ellis, Staffordshire's Police & Crime Commissioner will take responsibility for the fire and rescue service, saving as much as £2m.

The move was backed by Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling and Conservative colleague for Lichfield Michael Fabricant.

Ms Milling said: "It is logical for the two services to share their back office functions and remove duplication."

Mr Fabricant said: "These changes will result in millions of pounds worth of annual savings in back-office administration functions which can now be redirected into frontline firefighting services."

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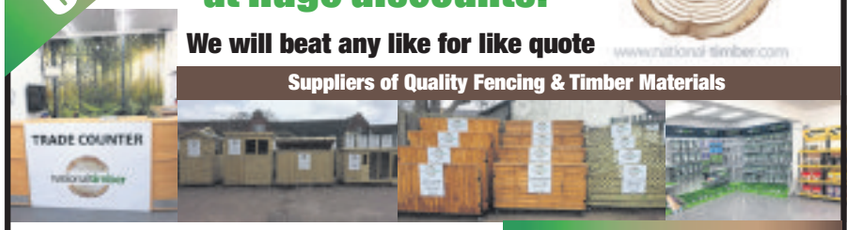

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Trolleys collected by volunteers in tidy-up

The work party that collected rubbish around the Leathermill Lane area of Rugeley

THREE supermarket trolleys, a scooter and a jogging machine were among the dumped items collected by a group of volunteers at a community clean-up.

Two bicycles and a flattened trolley were also pulled out by the 18-strong party in Rugeley.

The work party gathered at Leathermill Lane and collected masses of litter – the black bags filled two gravel bags to the top.

Organiser Margaret Beardsmore said the trolleys, scooter and running machine were collected at Leathermill Lane canal bridge, while at Station Road bridge, the pushbikes and flattened trolley were picked up.

Cans

"A dump of about 30 drinks cans were cleaned up between the bridges," she added. "We also took down the canalside noticeboards at Leathermill Lane bridge and they have been taken to Fradley for a refurbishment."

Two PCSOs helped the volunteers in their work, picking up litter. In addition, the steps by Leathermill Lane bridge were repaired. These will need more work at a later date, however.

Tesco provided with free car parking, access to their staff canteen and a subsidised lunch.

Margaret added: "All in all, a brilliant effort all round - and it was really nice to see some of the bulbs we planted last year still coming through and the saplings throwing out new shoots."

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Workshops on offer as wool festival looms

THE date is looming for a wool festival in Penkridge.

Wool@J13 takes place at Lower Drayton Farm on May 12 and 13 and will include knitters, crocheters, felters and weavers.

Craft enthusiasts can sign up for the 27 artist-led workshops.

Some of the workshops include felting a mini guinea pig from a piece of knitting, creating crochet shawls with beads, learning how to darn, making knitted and crochet accessories and more.

Co-organiser, Staffordshire wool artist, Ingrid Wagner, said: "Our workshops last year were a huge success and for our second year we were determined to build on this and offer even more choice. "

Workshops cost from £10 per hour including materials, on top of show entry, with advance booking essential.

Full details of all workshops alongside options to book places, and to buy show entry tickets can be found at www.wool-j13.uk

Wig buyer agrees toupee £520

A RARE early 19th Century court wig belonging to a former Staffordshire MP who fought under the Duke of Wellington has sold at auction.

The horsehair wig belonged to Sir George Anson, a former MP for Lichfield, and general in the British Army.

It sold for £520 at an auction – after initial estimates suggested it would fetch £100 to £150.

The wig, which dates back to around 1800 and complete with its original case bearing the initials G H Anson Esq, went under the hammer at Hansons Auctioneers.

Charles Hanson with the wig and box

Sir George Anson MP

Delighted

Sir George was a former Whig politician for Lichfield who moved in royal circles.

'Old Sir George Anson', as he was called by Queen Victoria, was said to be delighted to be appointed a groom of the bedchamber to Prince Albert in 1840. Sir George also commanded a British cavalry brigade under the Duke of Wellington during the Peninsular War – serving in campaigns from 1809 to 1813, including commanding the 16th Light Dragoons.

In 1814 Sir George was appointed as colonel of the 23rd Regiment of (Light) Dragoons and to colonel of the 4th Dragoon Guards. He was later promoted to the rank of full general in 1837.

Charles Hanson, owner of Hansons, who made the find, said: "The wig belonged to the late Sir George Anson, of Rushall Hall, Staffordshire, who lived from 1769 to 1849.

"Due to this gentleman's stature, we're not at all surprised to see the wig sell for such a high price. This wig has tremendous Staffordshire heritage. The Anson name is held in high regard in Lichfield and beyond.

"Hereditary titles held by the Anson family include the earldom of Lichfield and there is an Anson law firm with offices in Lichfield and other parts of the Midlands."

Park on track for decade of Thomas Land

IT'S full steam ahead for Drayton Manor Park as it celebrates the tenth anniversary of Europe's only Thomas Land.

To mark a decade of Thomas, the theme park, which is now open for 2018, is hosting a number celebratory events and competitions.

The popular multi-million-pound attraction was launched in 2008 and is one of only three in the world, becoming an attraction for families from across the UK and the rest of the globe.

Drayton Manor Park managing director William Bryan said: "My grandparents established Drayton Manor to provide a space for our guests to create happy memories together, and introducing the much-loved Thomas Land attraction has helped us to provide families with even more opportunities to do so.

"Thomas Land holds a special place in my family's hearts. It has been an instrumental part of our journey as we have grown from strength to strength as one of the UK's most popular family days out."

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A mugshot of Catherine Legg, right, with her handwritten note

Isaac Ellery, right, who was sent to the colonies for stealing cushions

Archives give insight to Victorian criminals

HAUNTING images of crime suspects arrested more than 160 years ago whave been released in a series of police custody images believed to be among the oldest of their kind.

The photographs of Isaac Ellery and Catherine Legge were taken by Birmingham police back in the 1850s and are accompanied with handwritten notes by the suspected offenders.

MEMORY LANE

Report by Tom Oakley

Ellery was convicted in 1853 for stealing 'gig cushions' and sentenced to seven years 'transportation' – a Victorian punishment that saw offenders shipped to the colonies to serve sentences abroad. But it appears even that failed to change his ways as he was convicted again in 1860 for producing counterfeit coins. Details surrounding the alleged offences of Legge are unclear but these images provide a glimpse of policing more than a century-and-a-half ago – and show how mugshots of suspected criminals captured by West Midlands Police have changed over the years.

In the early days, officers used Birmingham's Moor Street public office cells and prisoners would be marched round to the nearby photographic studio and pose for pictures amongst paying customers. The force started producing its own photographs in around 1870 when those being held were snapped holding a chalk board with their details.

In 1891 a photographic studio, including a dark room, was created in the lock-up offices and styles of photos changed.

There were periods where those arrested were asked to put their hands out in front of their body; and then in front of a number of mirrors giving a number of angles.

A spokesman for West Midlands Police said: "Over the years, advances in technology have seen the introduction of colour, computer databases and different styles... but the principle of bringing those convicted of offending to justice has remained the same."

To find out more about early prisoner photography follow @WMPHistory on Twitter and Instagram, or visit WMPeelers.com. Old custody pictures can be found by searching the #MugshotMonday hashtag.

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Harrowing final footage of woman killed in fire

HARROWING CCTV footage of a woman's last moments before she died in a flat fire have been revealed as part of a campaign.

The clip shows the woman, who the family have requested is not identified, opening her flat door to be confronted by thick smoke.

She walks into her home – the last steps she ever took.

A short time later, firefighters arrive. By this point the camera is almost obscured by the thick dark smoke which has spread into the hallway from within the flat. But their figures can just be made out as they come out of the flat carrying the woman, who sadly did not survive.

The CCTV clip shows the woman opening her flat door to be met by thick smoke

Dangerous

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service hopes the distressing footage will help emphasise how dangerous it is to investigate or attempt to tackle a fire yourself. Its Get Out Stay Out campaign highlights the importance of leaving the property as soon as possible and waiting for crews to arrive.

The initiative also aims to prevent people from attempting to gather belongings or re-entering a burning building. Chiefs stress items of property can be replaced but a life cannot.

Glynn Luznyj, director of Prevent and Protect, said: "We're very thankful that the family have agreed to release this disturbing footage showing their loved one's last living moments.

"We hope this will make people think twice before they investigate a fire or go back inside for any belongings."

For more on the campaign visit www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk/your-safety/campaigns/get-out-stay-out/

MP hails £600m in nuclear funding

DEFENCE secretary Gavin Williamson has received a major boost in his bid for more defence funding after the Prime Minister signed off an extra £600 million for the dreadnought submarine programme.

The submarines will carry the Trident nuclear deterrent when the current Vanguard class is scrapped.

Theresa May said the funds would ensure the work remained on schedule.

It comes on top of £200m already pledged to the programme by the Government, giving the Ministry of Defence (MoD) an additional £800m over the coming year.

Mr Williamson, Conservative MP for South Staffordshire, said the funding was vital in terms of strengthening Britain's military capabilities.

"This is a welcome boost to our armed forces, ensuring we defend our country and protect our national interests with the ultimate capability," he said.

"In an increasingly dangerous world we must strengthen and maintain our ability to counter the intensifying and evolving threats we face to keep Britain safe."

Announcing the funding during Prime Minister's Questions, Mrs May said it was 'another sign of the deep commitment this Government has to keeping our country safe'.

Tourism spots up for award

A RUGELEY hotel is in line for a top tourism award for the fifth time.

Colton House a luxury bed and breakfast, has reached the VisitEngland Awards for Excellence finals and could land the Sustainable Tourism Award.

Two more of Staffordshire's best tourism businesses are also in the running to be named the best in the country.

The National Memorial Arboretum at Alewas is a finalist in the Large Visitor Attraction of the Year category, while World of Wedgwood in Stoke-on-Trent is into the last three in the Guided Tour of the Year.

The ceremony takes place at Bath Assembly Rooms on April 23.

Destination Staffordshire senior visitor economy marketing officer Andrea Sammons said: "We are thrilled that, during English Tourism Week, three of our Enjoy Staffordshire Tourism Award winners have been selected as finalists in the national awards."

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WOLVERHAMPTON MAGAZINE

Alarm over self-harm increase at prison

A 'DREADFUL' rise in self-harm, prisoners kept in cells for long periods and high levels of violence have been highlighted as some of the failings at a prison.

Inspectors who visited HMYOI Brinsford uncovered 554 incidents of self-harm between May and October last year.

A HM Inspectorate of Prisons report concluded 'boredom and frustration caused by the poor regime' contributed to continuing high levels of violence.

Risen

Inspectors said it was to the prison's credit that levels of violence had not risen since a 2015 inspection.

However, the assessment of safety was downgraded due to rising concerns about prisoners self-harming'.

Chief Inspector of Prisons Peter Clarke said: "To understand the dreadful increase in self-harm, it is impossible to ignore the potential impact of the regime, which was particularly poor for a population consisting mainly of young adults.

"For those supposedly

By David Cosgrove

in full-time employment, five-and-a-half hours out of their cell each day was typical, and was simply not good enough.

"For those unemployed, an hour out of their cell each day was typical. For the prison to make meaningful progress in many other areas, these unacceptable figures must be improved."

The inspection did rule that 'for the moment, Brinsford is working hard to bring about some much-needed improvements'.

Michael Spurr, chief executive of HM Prison and Probation Service, said: "The governor has robust plans in place to improve performance and safety at Brinsford."

Chasing stardom as single launched

Night Tide, fronted by 20-year-old Annie Myatt, release their debut single this weekend

AN upcoming band with roots in Staffordshire release their debut single this weekend.

Chasing Hearts by Night Tide, a trio fronted by 20-year-old Annie Myatt from Gailey, will be released on Saturday across all music platforms including Spotify and Apple Music.

Jagon Edge, from Stafford, on bass and production and Kings Heath's Rohan Simmons, guitar and production, both also 20, make up the band.

The indie/pop trio met while studying music together at Birmingham Ormiston Academy four years ago and decided to form together after leaving for universities.

They are performing at venues throughout Birmingham this summer and are working on the release of their debut six-track EP, to be released later in the year.

On Chasing Hearts, they are working alongside Grammy nomintated engineer Benny Steele, who has previously worked on tracks for the likes of Justin Bieber, Jason Derulo, David Guetta and Pitbull.

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Strictly Ballroom

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Nerina's about to Stay Lucky

Don't get Nerina Pallot started. The self-confessed grump, voracious reader and voracious writer – and very occasionally voracious drinker – will tell it like it is. Albeit with some wit, a ready smile and not a little panache.

The Brit-nominated singer/songwriter has written for the likes of Kylie Minogue and a fistful of X Factor hopefuls: "I can't say Kylie wasn't good money – it was. But I only saw it as a means to an end: funding my own records. But after a while it became so soul-destroying. Not necessarily for me, but because of all these young artists – they're being filled with all this hope. And you know that unless the second single goes, it's over for them. I saw that time and time again. I don't want to be a part of that. It's grim."

She's no longer a fan of co-writing: "I'll never do it again for love or money. I'm actually really down on people who co-write."

And she's also got more chips on her shoulder than McCain about the way her first two albums were marketed. "Very pop, very mainstream, and it was all about being nice. A journalist said: 'Her hair is too glossy to take her seriously.' I hated it at the time but she was right! Although, to be honest, it is nice to see yourself looking pretty."

GREATEST

She has no time for pop superstars, like Taylor Swift. "Taylor Swift could make the greatest record of all time. But it's too late – she's TAYLOR."

And so meet Nerina Pallot, a smart artist who talks straight and writes beautifully. Her new album is Stay Lucky. It's her sixth, and she's releasing it at the age of 43. The Jersey-born, London-based musician played her first gig in 1995, which means she's been doing this for 22 years. Is she bothered about any of those numbers? What do you think?

"I've only now just got a handle on things. I don't know why we have this massive issue with age."

Nerina wrote Stay Lucky and played guitar and piano and synths and percussion on it. She produced it, and, after relationships with three different major labels, is releasing it on her own label, Idaho Records. "That's allowed me to be free," she notes, stating the happy obvious. "When I think about why I went pop on my third album [2009's The Graduate] – which was a disaster for me; I lost a lot of fans – it was because my label were breathing down my neck after the second one," Nerina says of 2005's Fires. It sold 100,000 copies and earned her Brit and Ivor Novello award nominations. "They were telling me it should have sold 10 million, if only it had had a radio single. So what that led to was me trying to do that – and then doing stuff with Kylie."

Nerina wrote two songs, one of them the title track, for Kylie's 2010 album Aphrodite. She admits that that experience, plus spells writing with Linda Perry (Christina Aguilera's Beautiful) and Rob Davis (Minogue's Can't Get You Out Of My Head), helped Pallot improve her chorus-writing skills. "But that didn't translate to a radio single for me. 'Cause my heart wasn't in it. 'Cause that's not who I am."

So, now that she's free, she can "indulge herself." This meant a year of EPs, released one a month in 2014 – and it means, further down the line from Stay Lucky, more new songs that are "way more out-there – there's one that's a bit Roy Ayers. Actually, that might make this album . . . But I will only do what I want to do. And as long as I can keep living, I won't stop."

Stay Lucky was recorded over two productive weekends in London's legendary RAK studios. The speed belies the lovely, unhurried expansiveness of an album that is, truly and deeply, her most personal, most warmly emotional album yet.

Even as she led from the front, it's also her most collaborative record. Nerina was aided, abetted and enriched by a thrillingly diverse selection of musicians. The players include three members of Michael Kiwanuka's touring band, Steve Pringle (keyboards), Alex Bonfanti (bass) and Lewis Wright (drums, vibes), with the latter taking time out from his other day-job, as a member of acclaimed young British jazz quartet Empirical. The backing vocalists are Markus Feehily (ex-Westlife) and Rod Thomas (aka Bright Light Bright Light).

The bulk of the string arrangements are by Sally Herbert (Florence & The Machine, Bat For Lashes), who's worked on all of Pallot's albums. The brass arranger is Noel Langley, probably the most respected British jazz trumpeter, as Radiohead would attest. Finally, Bernard Butler (who co-produced her fourth album Year of the Wolf) plays guitar on three tracks. As Nerina notes typically pithily: "I've basically made a totally muso record, which is a great or terrible thing depending on how you feel about six-minute songs and sax solos.

I can't say Kylie wasn't good money – it was

"I feel like I've got the best career 'cause I've never had enough success for it to be demanded that I do the same thing over and over again. I would go completely mental having to do the same successful record again. I'd never be able to move on. I like so much music, and I love new music. Last year it was the BadBadNotGood record – I was just relieved that fusion is allowed now – I was a massive fusion fan as a teenager. And also Thundercat – I'm like, great, we can have sax solos again! Which is why a sax solo is the last thing I have to add to Stay Lucky before it's totally done . . ."

Nerina headlines Birmingham's Glee Club on Monday.

● **For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.**

Andy Richardson

Everything Everything

They've got Everything Everything going for them

With a top 10 album, plus performances at both Glastonbury and Reading and Leeds last summer, it's safe to say Everything Everything had a monumental 2017.

This year already looks set to be better with a huge UK tour that sees them playing their biggest headline shows to date. Some dates were hit by the early March snow, hence the band's rescheduled concert next Thursday, April 12, at Birmingham's O2 Academy.

The Mercury Music Prize-nominated indie rockers have released four albums to date – 2010's Man Alive, 2013's Arc, 2015's Get To Heaven and 2017's A Fever Dream. In addition to a Mercury Music Prize shortlist, they have received three nominations for the Ivor Novello Award.

A Fever Dream was their biggest success to date and just as politically-charged as its predecessor, Get To Heaven. Singer Jonathan Higgs, from Tyneside, says: "It feels like the right thing to do: the right record to have made and the right way to react to the last couple of years. We didn't want to repeat ourselves, we didn't want to drastically go against what we'd done."

Other key gigs include indie rockers The Vaccines with the up-and-coming Dream Wife at the O2 Academy on Saturday, the same night that 1D's Harry Styles plays the Genting Arena at the NEC.

Britain's Got Talent winner Tokio Myers, who has just reworked Jerusalem for England's Commonwealth Games squad, is at the O2 Institute on Sunday, when rapper Macklemore plays the O2 Academy.

A psychological Turn Of The Screw

A NEW adaptation of the terrifying Henry James ghost story Turn Of The Screw brings chills to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday, April 14.

Set in 1840, it tells of a governess who agrees to look after two orphans, a boy and a girl, at seemingly idyllic country house, Bly. But she soon realises that they are being manipulated by ghosts of Bly's troubled past and is prepared to go to extremes to save the children from malign influence. Is this the supernatural at work or the delusions of a damaged mind?

Carli Norris, pictured, from TV's EastEnders and Hollyoaks, plays the tormented Governess.

Dermot McLaughlin, who produces this touring play with Mercury Theatre Colchester and Wolverhampton Grand, says: "I was inspired by the success of the stage adaptation of Susan Hill's much-loved novel The Woman in Black and, in researching the debt that Hill's novel owes to Henry James, I got lost in the intriguing world of Bly and the Governess's psyche.

"I found Turn of the Screw a compelling story with fascinating female characters.

The context of this troubled woman committing to paper her terrifying and inexplicable experiences so long after the event was intriguing and moving. That psychology seemed very interesting dramatic territory."

Tim Luscombe's adaptation signals the passage of time in a surprising way whilst true to the story. Turn of the Screw has been much debated since its publication in 1898. It was made into 1961 film The Innocents with Deborah Kerr and inspired Nicole Kidman haunted house movie The Others.

Love on the rock for young gangster

It's been described as Romeo and Juliet meets Peaky Blinders, a new adapation of Graham Greene's novel Brighton Rock has been adapted for the stage by Bryony Lavery. Brighton Rock tells the story of two 17-year-olds, gangster Pinkie and his girl Rose, played by Jacob James Beswick and Sarah Middleton, pictured. The formidable Ida (Gloria Onitiri) is not prepared to let anyone get away with murder. It is staged at Birmingham Rep from Tuesday to Saturday, April 14.

Thee Hypnotics are roaring back to action

Hell-raising 1990s rockers Thee Hypnotics are back with a heavyweight coloured vinyl anthology boxed set, Righteously Recharged, and a Brum gig tomorrow night (Friday) as part of a 15-date UK tour. Jim Jones (vocals) and Ray Hanson (guitar) will be joined by Jeremy Cottingham (bass) and Phil Smith (drums) at the Hare and Hounds in Kings Heath. Known for their savage blend of garage rock and psychedelia, Thee Hypnotics garnered a cult following from 1987 onwards after supporting The Damned, The Cramps, The Black Crowes and The Cult. But the story nearly ended in tragedy in 1990 when the group's tour bus was hit by a drunk driver after a gig at Prince's club in Minneapolis. The band, who came from High Wycombe, split in 1999 and singer Jones went on to front the Jim Jones Revue.

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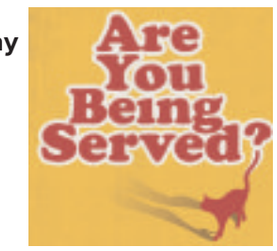

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SATURDAY'S TV APRIL 7

CHOICE

Bella Dayne

Troy: Fall of a City (BBC1, 9.10pm)

The Trojans are stunned to discover a deserted Greek camp, and all that remains on the beach is an offering to the gods in the form of a large, wooden horse. With the war finally over, the celebrations can begin, but are they premature? The final episode of David Farr's Ancient Greek adventure, retelling the legend of the Trojan War from the perspective of a family at the heart of the conflict. Starring Bella Dayne, Louis Hunter, David Threlfall, Frances O'Connor, Chloe Pirrie, Joseph Mawle, Jonas Armstrong, Waldemar Schultz, Aimee-Ffion Edwards, Johnny Harris, David Avery, Alfred Enoch, Christiaan Schoombie, Chris Fisher and Amy Louise Wilson. Last in the series.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Commonwealth Games 2018. Live swimming, track cycling and netball coverage from Queensland. **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Golf: The Masters Highlights. **2.15** Commonwealth Games 2018. Jason Mohammad presents highlights of day three. **4.30** Final Score. **5.15** A Question of Sport. (R) **5.45** Doodlebugs.

6.00 Ready or Not. Game show featuring unsuspecting members of the public who face surprise challenges while going about their daily lives. Paddy McGuinness provides the commentary.

6.30 BBC News.

6.40 Regional Programme.

6.50 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present a writers' special of the general knowledge quiz, featuring Charlie Higson, Sally Gardner, Fern Britton, Jilly Cooper and Martina Cole.

7.40 Who Dares Wins. Nick Knowles presents the game show in which two pairs of complete strangers team up, each battling to outdo the other by listing as much as they know about a given subject.

8.20 Casualty. Ethan treats a pregnant woman who was rushed to the ED after her waters broke at a bus stop. Sam admits to Iain that she is worried about Dylan's alcoholism, and wants to help him.

9.10 Troy: Fall of a City. The Trojans are stunned to discover a deserted Greek camp, and all that remains on the beach is an offering to the gods in the form of a large, wooden horse. Last in the series.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.; National Lottery Update.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Manchester City v Manchester United at the Etihad Stadium and Everton v Liverpool at Goodison Park.

11.55 Commonwealth Games 2018. JJ Chalmers introduces live coverage on day four of the Games in Queensland, with swimming, boxing and hockey some of the standout sports on today's schedule.

4.00 Commonwealth Games 2018. Further live coverage of day four in Queensland.

BBC2

6.00 Commonwealth Games 2018. Hazel Irvine introduces live coverage of the third day in Queensland, with artistic gymnastics, netball and track cycling among the sports taking place. **10.00** Robot Wars. (R) **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Commonwealth Games 2018. Clare Balding presents live coverage as day three of the Games reaches its conclusion with swimming medals up for grabs in the women's 200m breaststroke and 4x200m freestyle relay. **2.15** MasterChef. (R) **2.45** MasterChef. (R) **3.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.15** Money for Nothing. (R) **5.00** Big Cats About the House. (R)

6.00 Today at the Games. Clare Balding and Gabby Logan round up the third day of the Commonwealth Games in Queensland. Swimmer Adam Peaty was expected to go for a third Commonwealth gold medal in the men's 100m breaststroke final at Optus Aquatic Centre, while Yorkshire brothers Alistair and Jonny Brownlee were scheduled to take part in the mixed team triathlon relay at Southport Broadwater Parklands. Artistic gymnast Max Whitlock was the man to beat in the men's individual all-around final at Coomera Indoor Sports Centre, while England and Scotland were hoping for track cycling glory at the Anna Meares Velodrome in Brisbane.

7.30 Golf: The Masters Live. Eilidh Barbour introduces coverage of the third day from the Augusta National in Georgia, as the opening Major of the year continues. Yorkshireman Danny Willett was the defending champion here last year, but two poor opening rounds of 73 and 78 saw him miss the cut by one stroke, becoming the first holder of the Green Jacket to exit the tournament on Friday since Mike Weir in 2004. With commentary by Peter Alliss, Ken Brown, Andrew Cotter and Paul Azinger.

12.00 Film: Having You. (2013) A man with a fear of commitment finally manages to overcome his doubts and propose to his girlfriend. He finds himself facing new responsibilities when he runs into a woman he once had a one-night stand with, only to discover he is the father of her seven-year-old son. Drama, starring Anna Friel, Andrew Buchan and Romola Garai. **1.30** Civilisations. (R) **2.30** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.35** BBC News.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Star Wars Freemaker Adventures. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Bagel and Becky Show. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.25** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **12.20** The Harbour. (R) **12.50** ITV News; Weather. **1.00** Midsomer Murders. (R) **3.00** Tenable. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R)

6.00 ITV News; Weather.

6.15 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.30 New You've Been Framed!

7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. Declan Donnelly presents the finale of the entertainment show live from Universal Orlando Resort in Florida, featuring super-sized audience surprises, incredible stunts and celebrity guests. Plus, Stephen Mulhern takes his pop-up game show In for a Penny stateside, and Scarlett Moffatt is on hand to ensure the Place on the Plane winners have an experience they'll never forget. The identity of the Overlord is finally revealed in the conclusion of Saturday Knight Takeaway, and another player gets the chance to Win the Ads. Last in the series.

8.30 The Voice UK – Live Final. The grand final of the spinning-chair singing contest, as the remaining four singers battle it out to land a lucrative recording contract with Polydor Records. Plus, coaches Jennifer Hudson, Tom Jones, Will.i.am and Olly Murs take to the stage for a special performance together, and are also on hand to give the contestants as much help and encouragement as possible. However, ultimately it's the viewing public who call the shots and decide who will be crowned the winner of this year's competition. Last in the series.

10.10 ITV News; Weather.

10.30 Film: Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows. (2011) Premiere. Detective thriller sequel, starring Robert Downey Jr and Jude Law.

12.40 Jackpot247. **3.00** Babushka. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 Mobil 1: The Grid. **6.45** Motor Sport: British GT. **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.05** Frasier. (R) **9.35** Frasier. (R) **10.05** Frasier. (R) **10.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.05** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Practice 3 Live. Coverage from the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhir. **2.30** F1 Meets David Coulthard. (R) **2.55** Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Qualifying Live. Coverage from the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhir (Start-time 4.00pm). **5.45** Car SOS. (R)

6.40 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Coastal Railways with Julie Walters. The actress travels on the famous Great Western Railway to Cornwall. She recalls childhood holidays when she stops at Torquay before heading to a supposedly haunted castle at Kingswear. She also uncovers tales of smuggling and joins members of the RNLI on a practice run before visiting an unusual cake shop in Penzance. (R)

8.00 Britain's Most Historic Towns. New series. Alice Roberts explores the UK's past through the stories of its towns, examining key periods in history by delving into the secrets of places that encapsulate them. In the first episode, Alice tells the story of Roman Britain by studying the history of Chester. She enjoys an authentic Roman feast, heads deep underground to check out an extraordinary archaeological find, and explores a radical theory regarding the Romans' plans for Chester.

9.00 Film: Legend. (2015) Biopic of the Kray brothers, exploring their rise to power in the London underworld and conflicts with rival gangs from the point of view of Reggie's wife Frances, who remains devoted to her husband even as he remains equally bound to his brutal, unstable sibling. Starring Tom Hardy as both twins, with Emily Browning, Christopher Eccleston and David Thewlis.

11.35 Film: Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter. (2012) Fantasy thriller, starring Benjamin Walker.

1.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **2.20** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.30** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.35** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.30** Traffic Cops. (R) **12.30** Traffic Cops. (R) **1.30** Live Aviva Premiership Rugby Union. Bath v Leicester Tigers (Kick-off 2.00pm). **4.15** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **5.10** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R)

6.05 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Two agents get caught up in a dispute between a landlord and a tenant who refuses to move out, while on the south coast, debt collection from a Turkish restaurant gets complicated. (R)

7.00 The Secret Life of Owls. Part one of two. In a corner of rural Essex, a former First World War airfield has been left wild for over 100 years. It is now perfect owl country, home to all five of Britain's species of owl. Among them, lives a remarkable barn owl called Missing claw, and two inseparable little owls, Geronimo and Flo. Cameras follow their progress during winter, spring and summer.

8.00 Everest: World's Greatest Mountain. Cameras explore the wonder of the world's most iconic mountains, beginning with the highest in the world – Mount Everest. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship. Colin Murray introduces highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship, including Cardiff City v Wolverhampton Wanderers at the Cardiff City Stadium, Norwich City v Aston Villa at Carrow Road, Hull City v Queens Park Rangers at the KCOM Stadium, Leeds United v Sunderland at Elland Road and Sheffield Wednesday v Fulham at Hillsborough.

10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush. Colin Murray introduces all the goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two, including AFC Wimbledon v Scunthorpe United and Grimsby Town v Chesterfield.

10.30 20 Moments That Rocked the 90s. Cold Feet star Helen Baxendale presents a countdown of memorable moments from the 1990s, including the death of Diana, Princess of Wales and the chart battle between Blur and Oasis. (R)

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10 Film:** The Other Guys. (2010)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Insect Worlds **7.30** Commonwealth Games Extra **9.00** Below the Surface **10.30** Top of the Pops: 1985 **11.00** Boy George and Culture Club: Karma to Calamity **12.00** Young Guns Go for It **12.30** The Man Who Brought the Blues to Britain: Big Bill Broonzy **1.30** John Williams at the BBC **2.30** Trad Jazz Britannia **3.30** Close

ITV2

11.50 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **1.20** Britain's Got Talent: Top 10 LOL Moments **2.25** You've Been Framed! Gold **3.30 Film:** The Smurfs (2011) **4.30** FYI Daily **4.35 Film:** The Smurfs (2011) **5.35 Film:** Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **6.35** FYI Daily **6.40 Film:** Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **7.25 Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (2014) **8.25** FYI Daily **8.30 Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (2014) **10.10** Celebrity Juice **11.00** Family Guy **11.50** American Dad! **12.45** Action Team **1.20 Film:** Piranha (2010) **2.20** FYI Daily **2.25 Film:** Piranha (2010) **3.00** Teleshopping

ITV3

11.00 A Touch of Frost **3.20 Film:** Columbo: A Deadly State of Mind (1975) **5.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Vera **1.00** Murder, She Wrote **1.55** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.30 Film: Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) **12.30** FYI Daily **12.35 Film:** Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) **1.20** Football's Greatest: Thierry Henry **1.30** ITV Racing: Live from Kelso. Ed Chamberlin presents coverage of today's races at Kelso and Kempton Park. **4.00 Film:** Red River (1948) **5.05** FYI Daily **5.10 Film:** Red River (1948) **6.40 Film:** Live and Let Die (1973) **7.45** FYI Daily **7.50 Film:** Live and Let Die (1973) **9.05 Film:** Lethal Weapon 2 (1989) **10.10** FYI Daily **10.15 Film:** Lethal Weapon 2 (1989) **11.25 Film:** The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford (2007) **12.25** FYI Daily **12.30 Film:** The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford (2007) **2.35** Football Rivalries **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.00 Young Sheldon **12.30** The Big Bang Theory **1.55 Film:** Eragon (2006) **4.00** The Great Celebrity Bake Off for Stand Up to Cancer **5.15** Extreme Cake Makers **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** GI Joe: Retaliation (2013) **10.10 Film:** Contraband (2012) **12.15** Gogglebox **1.15** Naked Attraction **2.25** Tattoo Fixers **3.20** Gogglebox

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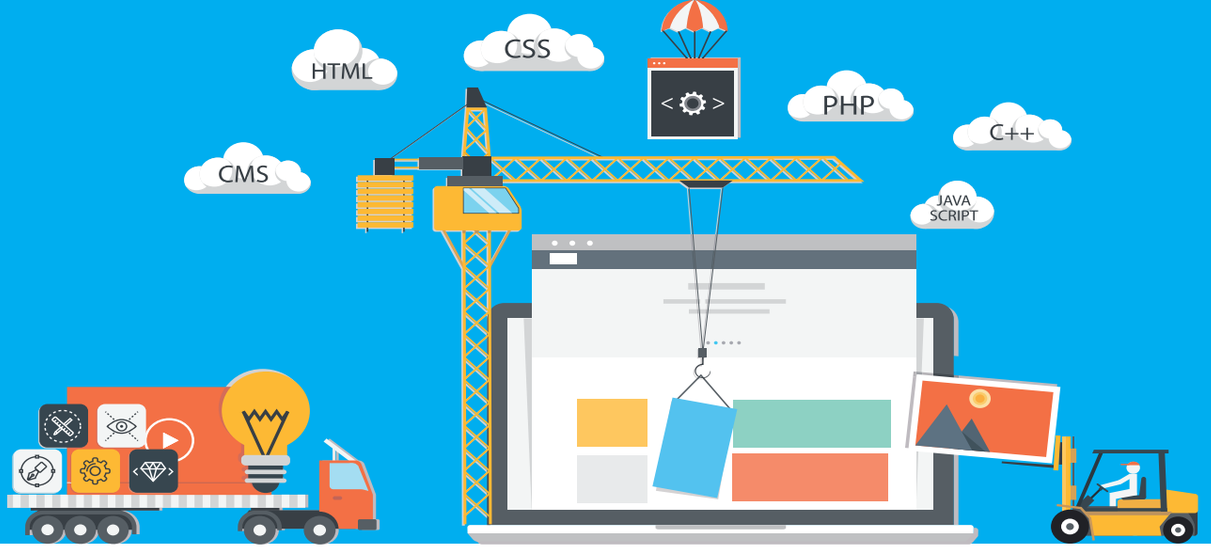

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SUNDAY'S TV APRIL 8

CHOICE

Catherine Tate

The Olivier Awards 2018 (ITV, 10.20pm)
Catherine Tate hosts the theatrical awards, which features performances from nominated musicals including Hamilton, 42nd Street, Follies, Young Frankenstein, Girl from the North Country and Everybody's Talking about Jamie, as well as a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. Actors in the running for awards include Imelda Staunton, Andrew Garfield, Bryan Cranston, Lesley Joseph and Lesley Manville.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Commonwealth Games 2018. Live swimming and track cycling action on day four. **1.30** BBC News; Weather. **1.45** Commonwealth Games 2018. Day four in Queensland concludes with live swimming. **4.30** Songs of Praise. **5.05** Celebrity Mastermind. (R) **5.35** BBC News. **5.50** Regional Programme.

6.00 The Big Painting Challenge. Mariella Frostrup and Rev Richard Coles travel to the Cotswolds, where nine painters work with their professional mentors to conquer techniques to depict nature in all its glory. The first task involves dealing with two subjects that won't stay still – dogs Herbert and Nutmeg – and the final challenge sees them attempting to capture the majesty of the Acer glades.

7.00 Countryfile. Sean Fletcher and Naomi Wilkinson present the show from Loch Ness, where they meet a seventh generation crofter and his daughter during lambing season, find out how a sporran maker is reinventing the traditional Scottish accessory, and tap birch trees for sap. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 The Generation Game. Family pairs from different generations battle it out in games including cake decorating, balloon modelling, and dancing the Argentine Tango with Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace.

9.00 Ordeal by Innocence. Arthur presents irrefutable proof that Jack is innocent, which stirs up tension among the members of the Argyll family, who realise that one of them may be the murderer.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action, with highlights of Arsenal v Southampton at the Emirates Stadium and Chelsea v West Ham United at Stamford Bridge.

11.30 Commonwealth Games 2018. JJ Chalmers introduces live coverage as day five gets under way in Queensland.

4.00 Commonwealth Games 2018. Further live coverage of day five in Queensland.

BBC2

6.00 Commonwealth Games 2018. Hazel Irvine presents live coverage as day four of the Games continues in Queensland, with artistic gymnastics, athletics and hockey all taking place. **9.00** Commonwealth Games 2018. Clare Balding presents further live coverage from day four of the Games in Queensland, featuring swimming at the Optus Aquatic Centre and track cycling at the Anna Meares Velodrome. Coverage continues on BBC One. **11.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **12.30** MasterChef. (R) **1.30** MasterChef. (R) **2.00** The Secret Helpers. (R) **3.00 Film:** Emma. (1996) A privileged, headstrong young woman is busy playing matchmaker for her friends – unaware she has found her own soulmate. Jane Austen drama, with Gwyneth Paltrow and Ewan McGregor. **5.00** Today at the Games. Clare Balding and Gabby Logan present the best of day four's action at the Commonwealth Games in Queensland, with Max Whitlock vying for two of the 20 gold medals on offer.

6.30 Golf: The Masters Live. Eilidh Barbour introduces coverage of the fourth and final day from the Augusta National in Georgia, as the opening Major of the year concludes. Spanish veteran Sergio Garcia finally claimed his first-ever Major here last year, overcoming England's Justin Rose in a play-off after carding a final round of 69. With commentary by Peter Alliss, Ken Brown, Andrew Cotter and Paul Azinger.

12.00 Film: The Rookie. (2002) A talented baseball player's dreams of turning professional end with an injury. Years later, he takes up the sport again when he agrees to coach a high-school team. However, a light-hearted wager with the players obliges him to try to make a comeback to the big time – with astonishing results. Fact-based drama, with Dennis Quaid, Rachel Griffiths, Jay Hernandez, Beth Grant and Angus T Jones. **2.00** Sign Zone: Countryfile. In West Yorkshire, Matt Baker meets a beekeeper who came to the county as a refugee from Syria, Anita Rani goes in search of mountain hares, and Joe Crowley discovers Emily Bronte's passion for wildlife. Plus, Tom Heap investigates the decline in Britain's hedgehogs. (R) **2.55** Holby City. Roxanna questions Gaskell's motives when he takes on a controversial new case. Meanwhile, Fletch clashes with new CEO Abigail over a vulnerable patient. (R) **3.55** Weather for the Week Ahead. **4.00** BBC News.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Spy School. **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Love Your Garden. (R) **10.00** The Voice UK – Live Final. (R) **11.40** Change Your Tune. (R) **12.40** ITV News; Weather. **1.00** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. (R) **2.30** Britain's Brightest Family. (R) **3.00** Tenable. (R) **4.00** You've Been Framed! (R) **4.30** ITV News; Weather. **4.45** Regional Programme ; Weather.**5.00** Tipping Point. (R)

6.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Actress Sally Phillips, musician Rick Wakeman, professional snowboarder Jenny Jones and impressionist Alistair McGowan pit their wits against ruthless quiz genius the Chaser, as Bradley Walsh hosts another star-studded edition of the show. The celebrities must work as a team and play strategically to answer general knowledge questions against the clock and race down the game board to the exit without being caught. (R)

7.00 Change Your Tune. More bad singers undergo training, including a woman who wants to sing at her father's birthday and a swimming coach who wants to duet with her boyfriend. Baz Ashmawy presents.

8.00 The Durrells. Larry goes to Athens on a shirt trip, and returns with a royal guest. Louisa is delighted to have a prince under her roof, but soon finds herself with a less welcome visitor.

9.00 The Good Karma Hospital. Ruby is still reeling from her discoveries at the tea plantation, and must decide if she can forgive past mistakes. Meanwhile, Mari goes head to head with Lydia.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.20 The Olivier Awards 2018. Catherine Tate hosts the theatrical awards.

12.15 100 Year Old Driving School. (R) **12.40** Marcella. (R) **1.30** Jackpot247. **3.00** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 Race of Champions 2018. **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.45** The Simpsons. (R) **1.15** The Simpsons. (R) **1.45** The Great Celebrity Bake Off for Stand Up to Cancer. (R) **3.00** Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Live Build Up. Steve Jones presents a look ahead to the action. **3.45** Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Live. Coverage of the second round of the season (Start-time 4.10pm).

6.20 Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix Live Reaction. Steve Jones and a panel of experts discuss the second round of the season from the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhir.

6.45 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Escape to the Chateau. Series following a British family through the process of buying and restoring a French chateau that has been empty for the past four decades. Dick Strawbridge and his partner Angel Adoree's new home has 12 acres of land, nine outbuildings, a walled garden and a moat – but it also has no electricity, heating or water, and proves to be a far more complicated DIY project than expected. (R)

8.00 Jesus' Female Disciples: The New Evidence. Theologians Helen Bond and Joan Taylor embark on a journey around the world in search of evidence of the role played by women in the beginnings of Christianity.

9.00 Homeland. Carrie and Saul interrogate a suspect, while Wellington makes a play. Espionage drama, starring Claire Danes, Mandy Patinkin and Linus Roache.

10.05 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Jimmy Carr hosts the words-and-numbers quiz, as Jon Richardson and Chris Addison take on Joe Wilkinson and Katherine Ryan, while David O'Doherty helps out in Dictionary Corner. (R)

11.00 Film: Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy. (2011) A former intelligence operative is brought out of retirement to uncover a Soviet mole in a high-ranking position in MI6. Cold War thriller, starring Gary Oldman and Colin Firth.

1.25 Film: Shubh Mangal Saavdhan. (2017) **3.25** KOTV Boxing Weekly.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.25** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.30** Mofy. (R) **6.35** Simon. (R) **6.40** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.45** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.00** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.10** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.20** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.30** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **7.55** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.10** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.25** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.00** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.15** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.35** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.40** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.45** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.20** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.15** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **11.50** Traffic Cops. (R) **12.50 Film:** Oliver! (1968) Musical, starring Ron Moody. **3.40 Film:** The Deep End of the Ocean. (1999) Drama, starring Michelle Pfeiffer. **4.40** 5 News Update. **4.45 Film:** The Deep End of the Ocean. (1999) Concluded. **5.50 Film:** Marley & Me. (2008) Comedy drama, starring Owen Wilson and Jennifer Aniston.

6.50 5 News Update.

6.55 Film: Marley & Me. (2008) Concluded.

8.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. In Coventry, the sheriffs chase £10,000 owed by a publican to a contractor. The property appears to be empty, but after finding an ingenious method of entry, Matt and Garry are confronted by a surprised and angry landlord. Meanwhile, agents Max and Steve head to central London to try to recover almost £8,000 owed to a firm of accountants. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 When Live News Goes Horribly Wrong. Moira Stuart narrates a selection of memorable mishaps from live news broadcasts, including the President of Estonia walking out of an interview with Dermot Murnaghan, an expert on Korea being upstaged by his own children, and Krishnan Guru-Murthy's awkward interview with comedian Richard Ayoade.

11.55 Football On 5: The Checkatrade Trophy. Lincoln City v Shrewsbury Town. Action from the showpiece match between the respective League Two and League One sides, which took place at Wembley Stadium.

12.55 Britain's Greatest Bridges. (R) **1.05** SuperCasino. **3.10 Film:** Resident Evil: Afterlife. (2010)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Commonwealth Games Extra **9.00** Folk Awards 2018 **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Horizon **11.30** Conversations: Michael Heseltine **12.30** How to Be Bohemian with Victoria Coren Mitchell **1.30** Revolution and Romance: Musical Masters of the 19th Century **2.30** Horizon **3.30** Close

ITV2

11.40 The Voice UK – Live Final **1.30 Film:** Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) **2.30** FYI Daily **2.35 Film:** Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) **3.40 Film:** The Smurfs 2 (2013) **4.40** FYI Daily **4.45 Film:** The Smurfs 2 (2013) **5.45 Film:** Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) **6.50** FYI Daily **6.55 Film:** Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) **8.00 Film:** Spectre (2015) **9.05** FYI Daily **9.10 Film:** Spectre (2015) **10.55** Family Guy **12.50** American Dad! **1.45** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

12.20 Film: Columbo: A Deadly State of Mind (1975) **1.55** A Touch of Frost **4.00** Vera **6.00** Lewis **8.00** Larry Grayson: Shut That Door! **10.00** An Audience with Victoria Wood **11.10 Film:** Carry On Dick (1974) **1.00** Inspector Morse **2.55** Blue Murder **4.10** Road to Avonlea **5.55** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

6.20 Nijinsky's Triple Crown **6.25** Pawn Stars **6.55** The Big Fish Off **7.55** Mr Bean **9.00** An Audience with Billy Connolly **10.05 Film:** Conan the Destroyer (1984) **11.05** FYI Daily **11.10 Film:** Conan the Destroyer (1984) **12.15 Film:** 6 Bullets (2012) **1.15** FYI Daily **1.20 Film:** 6 Bullets (2012) **2.30** The Protectors **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.30 Film: Step Up 4: Miami Heat (2012) **1.30** The Goldbergs **2.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **5.55** Young Sheldon **6.25** The Big Bang Theory **6.50 Film:** Night at the Museum (2006) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** The Inbetweeners **11.10** The Big Bang Theory **12.00** Tattoo Fixers **1.10** The Inbetweeners **2.15** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.05** Rude Tube

Film4

11.00 My Neighbour Totoro (1988) **1.00** Paddington (2014) **2.50** How to Train Your Dragon (2010) **4.40** Tooth Fairy (2010) **6.45** Ender's Game (2013) **9.00** The Last Witch Hunter (2015) **11.05** Bad Teacher (2011) **12.50** sex, lies and videotape (1989) **3.00** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Newlywed and Dead, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A young newlywed woman begins to doubt her husband's love when his aunt and rival is found murdered. She investigates the death and his chequered past, only to become his next target. Drama, starring Shenae Grimes-Beech, Christopher Russell and Samantha Ferris. (2016)

TUESDAY
Nightmare 911, Channel 5, 3.20pm
A police 911 operator is fired after mistaking a real murder for a prank call, and feeling guilty for allowing the crime to happen, she sets out to find the killer herself before he or she strikes again. Thriller, starring Fiona Gubelmann and John Lee Ames. (2015)

WEDNESDAY
McBride: Murder Past Midnight, Channel 5, 3.15pm
The crusading lawyer is called up for jury duty in the case of a woman thought to have poisoned her wealthy husband. However, he ends up reluctantly agreeing to defend the accused when she is retried. Mystery, starring John Larroquette, Marta DuBois and Matt Lutz. (2005)

Invictus, Friday, ITV, 10.45pm

THURSDAY
The Killing Game, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A forensic sculptor whose daughter disappeared years previously receives a series of menacing phone calls from a man claiming to have killed her and announces his intention to strike again. She sets out to expose his identity before another girl dies, and maybe find out where her child is buried. Mystery based on Iris Johansen's novel, starring Laura Prepon. (2011)

FRIDAY
Invictus, ITV, 10.45pm
Following his election as president of South Africa, Nelson Mandela finds himself the leader of a racially and economically divided nation, and seeks a means to unite the people. The country's entry in the 1995 Rugby World Cup provides a perfect opportunity, and he enlists the aid of captain Francois Pienaar in making his team an inspiration to all South Africans. Clint Eastwood's fact-based drama, starring Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon. (2009)

Shadowfax has to prove herself a worthy member

Imagine you can enter a virtual world, where you can forget your troubles and be somebody completely different. Some gamers may claim that they already do so, but not to the same level depicted in Kiss Me First, Channel 4's innovative drama, which began its run last week.

Based on Lottie Moggach's debut novel, it mixes live action with animated sequences set in Red Pill, a secret paradise hidden on the edges of central character Leila's favourite computer game. It's there that she meets Tess, her complete opposite who is hedonistic, impulsive and insatiable.

Leila's troubles escalate when Tess turns up in the real world, just as a fellow member of the gaming group mysteriously disappears – making her suspect that Red Pill isn't the new Eden its creator Adrian claims it to be.

Executively produced and written by Bryan Elsley, one of the co-creators of Skins, the six-part drama stars rising talent Tallulah Haddon as Leila.

"She's a young working class woman who is dealing with the difficulties of being a carer for her mother who has a terminal illness," says Haddon of her character. "She becomes more and more immersed in a game that she's played since her early teens, called Azana. Hopefully it gives some insight into the life of a young woman who is isolated but has a lot to offer to the world if she's given the opportunity.

"Leila lacks role models; she is isolated and has been neglected by the systems. Unfortunately she is in position where it is very difficult for her to get help or support. She's very capable, but at the same time quite naïve. I think if we bring it back to gaming, which is an art form, it makes total sense for her to want to be part of the Azana world, which holds so much more potential than her own."

Haddon herself took part in motion-capture filming to help the animators working on the project depict Leila's online world – it's an experience she won't forget in a hurry.

"It doesn't feel particularly magical when you're actually recording it, but it's really surprising what they managed to do," she smiles. "I thought of it as being more like a play, or a piece of movement, because it's a lot more active, whereas film acting is quite still.

"I think I was most shocked by the eye movement and the blinking. The eyes look so real, this reality conveys emotion at the same time as being quite isolating as you're reminded it's an animation. It emphasises the duplicity of the experience, feeling immersed in the Azana world."

In this week's episode, Leila's alter ego, Shadowfax, must prove to Adrian that she's a worthy addition to the world of Red Pill.

Despite being concerned about the sudden disappearance of Calumny, she's desperate to be allowed in so that she can learn more about her new friend Tess – but perhaps she should be more worried about Calumny's whereabouts than she appears to be...

PICK OF THE WEEK

Kiss Me First, Monday, Channel 4, 10pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Springtime on the Farm
Channel 5, 8pm
Farmers come in all shapes and sizes, from every age group and all types of backgrounds. But what connects these unsung heroes is the incredible lengths they go to in providing the food that goes on our tables all year round. Over the course of five nightly shows this week, Yorkshire Vet stars Peter Wright and Julian Norton, along with farmer and Countryfile presenter Adam Henson and Springwatch Unsprung's Lindsey Chapman, celebrate the nation's agricultural workers. The series begins with a look behind the scenes at Cannon Hall Farm near Barnsley, South Yorkshire, revealing how it stays afloat as a business, and the measures the farmers take to bring over a thousand lambs into the world. Plus, Gloria Hunniford recalls childhood days on her granny's farm in Northern Ireland, and former Emmerdale actor Kelvin Fletcher mucks out on a dairy farm.

TUESDAY
Cunk on Britain
BBC2, 10pm
How much you like this series probably depends on how comfortable you are with watching experts trying to retain their composure while Philomena Cunk asks them the sort of questions a five-year-old child might offer. But obviously the format worked in Charlie Brooker's Weekly Wipe, so little wonder Diane Morgan's gloriously stupid alter ego has been given more screen time to play with. In the second episode, her odyssey takes her from King Henry the Eighth to Horatio Nelson. Kate Williams is the latest guest star.

WEDNESDAY
Benidorm
ITV, 9pm
Kat is back in EastEnders, which has left many soap fans wondering why her on-off husband Alfie isn't with her. Well, one reason could be that Shane Richie is busy living it up the sun with another guest stint in Benidorm as entertainer Sammy Valentine. Sammy is riding high after his comeback performance and is ready to make his debut at Neptune's, but Monty remains unconvinced – until they have a meeting with a super fan. However, Joyce is still under the impression that they are going to be graced with the presence of a TV superstar. Meanwhile, Noreen senses the arrival of her twin sister Doreen, and Rob dashes to the airport in a bid to win back Cyd, leaving Billy and Eddie worried for his safety.

Cunk on Britain, Tuesday, BBC2, 10pm

THURSDAY
Living with the Brainy Bunch
BBC2, 8pm
Does parental influence affects students' academic ability? Experts certainly believe so, and in this radical experiment, struggling Year 11 pupils Hollie and Jack from Chessington Community College in south-west London move into the homes of two high-achieving counterparts. Hollie's new housemate is Holly H, who has a clutch of A*s in her sights and wants to become a lawyer. Meanwhile, Jack is teamed with Tharush who has only just moved to the UK from Italy but is already excelling at school. Initially, Hollie and Jack struggle with the early bedtimes, tough homework schedules and curfews. But will this revolutionary change in family life bring about a upturn in their grades and ultimately lead them down a different path in life?

FRIDAY
MasterChef: The Final
BBC1, 8.30pm
After an arduous seven-week journey, the search for the country's best amateur cook reaches its climax, with the remaining three participants having to push themselves to the limit for one last time before judges John Torode and Gregg Wallace crown the winner. This is their final chance to pull out all the stops, show everything they've learned through the process, and in three hours demonstrate the kind of cook they have become. They must push their culinary boundaries and produce the best three dishes of their lives in their quest to become the 14th MasterChef champion. Last in the series.

The City & the City
BBC2, 9pm
Borlu believes extreme right nationalist group leader Major Syedr knows more about Mahalia's death than he's prepared to reveal. Thriller, starring David Morrissey.

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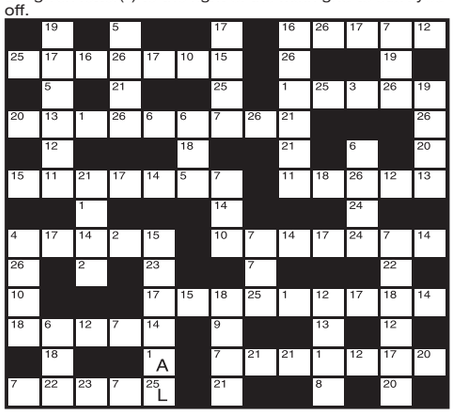
BRAIN GYM

No.474

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1 A	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
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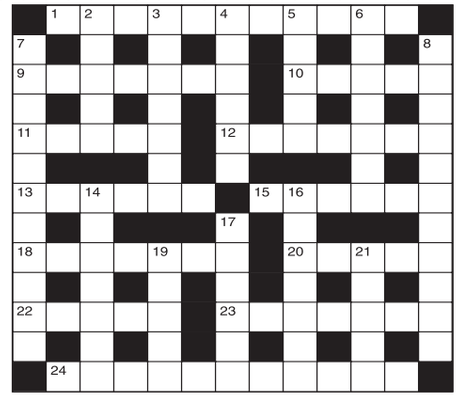
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25 L
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1 D	2 U	3 I	4 N	5 K	6 X	7 Q	8 S	9 F	10 B	11 J	12 V	13 H
14 P	15 T	16 C	17 W	18 E	19 O	20 A	21 L	22 Z	23 M	24 G	25 R	26 Y

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. One suffering from this finds it difficult to go on (5-6)
9. Contemporary gift (7)
10. Conductor is caricatured, we hear (5)
11. They sound like justifiable claims for observances (5)
12. Not in the mail for remote station (7)
13. Fray a piece of ribbon, by the sound of it (6)
15. Girls upset by eastern fish (6)
18. Passable method golfers should keep to (7)
20. Rude mechanical instrument (5)
22. They spray water on the ramblers (5)
23. Show too much enthusiasm in taking part (7)
24. They're indispensable when Scene 1 is set differently (11)

Down

2. To give patient attention is an unusual pleasure (5)
3. Had a shot at the visitor, one hears! (7)
4. Get to the bottom of a nautical measure (6)
5. Piece of metal to go in tin alloy (5)
6. Lock lubricator (4-3)
7. Austere menu provided at Thermopylae? (7,4)
8. By which bills are paid for the colonies (11)
14. Produce a publication again about children (7)
16. Take some thought to provide a mirror image (7)
17. They support current means of power (6)
19. As wet as scrap material (5)
21. A custom among industrious agents (5)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Conceited (11)
9. Inconsistent (7)
10. Devil (5)
11. Subject (5)
12. Thin (7)
13. Fools (6)
15. Put (6)
18. Crossbeam (7)
20. Horrify (5)
22. Singer (5)
23. Closest (7)
24. Diversify (11)

Down

2. Edge (5)
3. Withdraw (7)
4. Overlook (6)
5. Poke (5)
6. Wandering (7)
7. Confining (11)
8. Disbelief (11)
14. Persian (7)
16. Unauthorised disclosure (7)
17. Reparation (6)
19. Riddle (5)
21. Squeeze (5)

Sudoku

					2		1	
	2		1			5		6
8	1		7		6			
7			8					
	4	8		1		6	2	
		1		7	3			9
			5		9		3	
4	7	5			1		8	
			2	8				5

Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	7	3	4	8	6	9	2	1
8	4	9	3	1	2	6	5	7
6	2	1	9	5	7	4	8	3
4	6	2	1	3	9	5	7	8
9	1	5	6	7	8	3	4	2
3	8	7	2	4	5	1	6	9
7	9	4	8	6	3	2	1	5
2	5	6	7	9	1	8	3	4
1	3	8	5	2	4	7	9	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Evidence; 5 Acid; 9 Alas; 10 Spurious; 11 Curie; 12 Tripper; 13 General stores; 18 Absolved; 19 Scab; 20 Dormant; 21 Crate; 22 Dame; 23 Presence. Down: 2 Vulture; 3 Dislike; 4 Capital letter; 6 Cropper; 7 Deserts; 8 Artist; 13 Guarded; 14 Nostrum; 15 Reload; 16 Observe; 17 Elastic.
QUICK - Across: 1 Twilight; 5 Vend; 9 Area; 10 Handicap; 11 Silly; 12 Operate; 13 Death sentence; 18 Monarchy; 19 Pail; 20 Relieve; 21 Debar; 22 Turf; 23 Assisted. Down: 2 Warlike; 3 Leaflet; 4 Head over heels; 6 Enchain; 7 Deplete; 8 Advent; 13 Demerit; 14 Annular; 15 Harken; 16 Express; 17 Climate.

Quiz

1. What type of tree is the tamarack?
2. Whose autobiography is called The Tale of My Life?
3. On which day does Martinmas fall?
4. At what age, according to the Old Testament, did Moses die?
5. Which ocean contains the Norwegian Sea?
6. Which millionairess tennis player was charged with drug possession in 1994?
7. What is the capital of Tonga?
8. Of what nationality is the novelist Nadine Gordimer?
9. Which religious victims are named from the Greek for 'witness'?
10. In which country was dramatist Eugene Ionesco born?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Rubens; 2 Gary Player; 3 Long Island; 4 Stephen Hawking; 5 Istanbul; 6 The lungs; 7 Bel Mooney; 8 New Zealand; 9 Bryan Robson; 10 A monkey.

Niner: PARSIMONY

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

7218542 gives a mythological creature,
5612 gives a mythological character,
3416923 gives a mythological weapon.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Well-presented detached home with three bedrooms

DB Roberts & Partners are happy to present Lime House, Lichfield Road, Cannock, on sale for £289,950.

This delightful detached house is situated in the heart of Cannock and has excellent access to the varied commuter links around the town.

A spokesperson for DB Roberts & Partners said: "The property is a beautifully appointed family home and has been wonderfully maintained by the current owners."

In brief it includes an entrance hall, a sumptuous lounge with a feature solid fuel burner in an inglenook fireplace, a conservatory, a store room, and a dining room

It also features a spacious country-styled kitchen diner, a master bedroom with en-suite, two further double bedrooms and wonderful family bathroom.

Outside there is a pleasant rear garden featuring mature trees and shrubs and to the front driveway, there is a double garage and gardens.

Unsure about which estate agent to use? Let DB Roberts be there for you, and your buyers, call your local DB Roberts branch today to book your free property valuation.

DB Roberts and Partners are available seven days a week.

A spokesmann said: "With over 50 years' experience, they have established a reputation for success in property sales and have become recognised as among the market leaders.

"DB Roberts offers video walk-throughs. A professional film crew has the latest technology to be able to professionally film your property and then seamlessly edit it."

If you choose to put your property on the market with The DB Roberts Collection, you will receive a video walkthrough of the property included in the fee.

CANNOCK £289,950

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: DB Roberts & Partners
TEL: 01543 469966
EMAIL: cannock@dbroberts.co.uk

KEY FEATURES

- Three bedrooms
- Detached house
- Conservatory
- Pleasant front and rear gardens
- Double garage

She's sold

Turn to your local estate agent to sell your property and you will be **SOLD ON:**

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- **Registered house hunters**
- **Solid marketing advice to help you sell fast**

If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.

Four-bedroom executive house on in-demand Oaklands Estate

HEDNESFORD
£375,000 <<<

This well-presented executive four-bedroomed detached house in Croxley Drive, Hednesford, is a large home on the much sought-after Oaklands Estate.

Nestled in the old grounds of Prospect Manor between Hednesford and Heath Hayes, it is for sale through Lovett & Co Estate Agents at £375,000.

The style of the house is mock Georgian, built to a high specification for the current owner 18 years ago by a local building firm.

The property features include real floorboards, a full sized brick chimney and top quality fixtures such as a Georgian-style pillared fireplace. The property is generously proportioned with a large entrance hall and all bedrooms are genuine doubles with no box rooms.

For further information, call Lovett & Co on 01543 889410.

Quarter of an acre plot for bungalow

SLITTING MILL
£395,000

The Pingle in the village of Slitting Mill, near Rugeley, is a three/four bedroomed dormer bungalow sitting in around a quarter of an acre plot.

It is for sale through Southwells Estate Agents at £395,000. Slitting Mill lies close to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty of Cannock Chase.

This property's accommodation briefly comprises an entrance porch and hall, an L-shaped lounge and dining room, a kitchen, a covered passageway, a study and bedroom, a bathroom/shower room and a separate WC. There are two further bedrooms to the first floor and a WC.

Call Southwells on 01889 582137.

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ESTATE AGENTS SURVEYORS & LETTING AGENTS

Southwells

TEL: 01889 582137

17 Upper Brook Street, Rugeley, Staffs

Burnthill Lane Rugeley

A Four Bedroom Executive Detached House

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Conservatory
- Dining Room
- Integral Garage

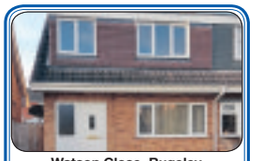
Offers over £239,950

Timbertops The Pingle Slitting Mill Rugeley

A Three/Four Bedroom Detached Dormer Bungalow

- Occupying pprox. quarter of an a acre plot
- Oil fuelled central heating
- Double Glazing
- Large Driveway
- Gardens with spectacular views

£395,000



Watson Close, Rugeley

A 3 Bedroom semi-detached House

- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- 3 Bedrooms
- Kitchen, Bathroom
- Front and rear enclosed gardens

£139,950

More Properties URGENTLY REQUIRED Rugeley and Surrounding Areas

Ti-Arwil, Keystone Lane, Rugeley

Trtaditional 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House

- Part Double Glazed
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens & Driveway Parking
- Single Car Garage & Outside W.C

£159,500

Thinking of Selling? Our Fee £849

Levett Grange, Rugeley

A Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace House

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Kitchen with Integrated Appliances
- Downstairs WC
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Parking Space

£600 PCM

Lower Brook Street Rugeley

An unfurnished three bedroom apartment

- Gas central heating
- Situated over two floors
- No smoking
- No housing benefit
- No pets
- FEES APPLY

£550 PCM

Moss Green, Rugeley

A One Bedroom First Floor Flat

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Fitted Kitchen
- Lounge

£415 PCM

Keystone Mews, Rugeley

A 1 Bedroom 1st Floor Apartment

- Lounge
- Bathroom
- Kitchen
- Close to town centre
- Parking Space

£425PCM

Attention Landlords

We have Tenants Waiting to Rent Your Property

Sheepfair, Rugeley.

A Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazed
- Conservatory
- No Housing Benefit No Smoking
- Agency Fees Apply

£650 PCM

Fernwood Drive Rugeley

A Two Bedroom End Terrace House

- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Ground Floor WC
- Allocated Car Parking Space
- Fully Enclosed Rear Garden

£525PCM

Hednesford Road - Commercial Property

A Ground Floor Retail Unit

- Main Road Frontage
- Total retail floor area 33.5sqm
- Kitchenette
- Toilet
- Subsidiary area to rear

£7250PA

Sheep Fair, Rugeley

A 1 Bedroom 2nd Floor Flat

- Town Centre Location
- Lounge
- Kitchenette
- Bedroom with built in wardrobe
- Bathroom

£400 PCM

www.phillipsouthwellestatesltd.co.uk
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PROPERTY

A deceptively spacious detached family home

Having stunning open views to the front, 232 Cannock Road, Heath Hayes, is a fully renovated and deceptively spacious three-bedroomed detached family home.

Being beautifully located in Heath Hayes, it is for sale through Flint & Co Estate Agents at £260,000.

The accommodation briefly comprises a spacious entrance lobby/office area, a 24ft lounge/diner, a re-fitted kitchen/diner, a utility room, a guest cloakroom/WC, a master bedroom with an en-suite, two further double bedrooms, a refitted family bathroom, a driveway providing parking for several vehicles and a good-sized rear garden.

HEATH HAYES
£260,000

In more detail the entrance lobby/office area has tiled flooring. The lounge/diner has a feature marble-effect fireplace and two double-glazed bow windows.

The refitted kitchen/diner has a range of units with roll top work surfaces over. The master bedroom has built-in storage and is positioned to the rear. Bedroom two lies to the front, while bedroom three has an en-suite shower room. The family bathroom has been refitted.

Contact Flint & Co on 01543 624400.

House in popular hamlet convenient for commuting

Brook Lodge in School Lane, Dunston, is an individually designed four-bedroomed detached family house in a popular rural hamlet with well-stocked gardens of 0.4 acre with a stream.

Conveniently located for access to Stafford and Penkridge, and for the A449, A5, the M6 toll and M54 motorway, it is for sale through Boot & Son Estate Agents at £415,000.

Having oil fired central heating, its accommodation briefly comprises porch, reception hall, cloakroom with WC, study, lounge, dining room, conservatory, breakfast kitchen, utility room, four double bedrooms, en-suite bathroom, a detached double width garage and an in-and-out driveway.

DUNSTON
£415,000

In more detail the hall has a feature hardwood balustrade to the stairs.

The lounge has a brick feature fire surround and a quarry hearth, a bow window, exposed beams and doors to the dining room, which in turn has sliding patio doors leading to the conservatory with ceramic tiled flooring and a light/fan unit.

Outside is a detached double width garage with a workshop area and remote controlled door.

Contact Boot & Son on 01543 505454.

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CANNOCK

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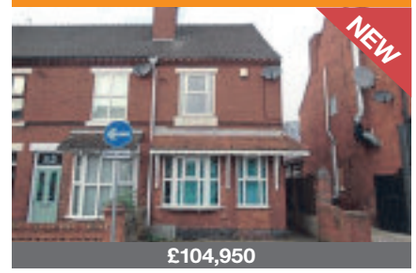
Stafford Street Cannock

- Semi Detached House
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen & Conservatory
- Good Sized First Floor Bathroom
- Well Presented
- Low Maintenance Rear Garden
- EPC = E

£139,950

Wolverhampton Road Cannock



£104,950

• End Terraced House • Three Bedrooms
• Cellar • Loft with Window, Power & Flooring
• Rear Garden • EPC = E

Station Road Cannock

£195,000

• RENOVATED THROUGHOUT • NO UPWARD CHAIN
• Four Bedrooms & Two Bathrooms • Two Reception Rooms
• Very Large Cellar, Spacious Enclosed Rear Garden • EPC = E

Hatherton Road Cannock

£260,000

• Four Bedroom Detached House • In Need of Modernisation Throughout
• Two Reception Rooms • Garage & Carport
• No Onward Chain • EPC = TBC

The Beeches Rugeley

£150,000

• Three Bedroom Semi Detached House • Two Reception Rooms
• Fitted Kitchen • Small Courtyard & Rear Garden
• Garage • EPC = D

Wade Street Lichfield

£199,950

• Two Bedroom Town House • Living Room & Fitted Kitchen
• Refitted Bathroom • Off Road Parking To Rear
• No Onward Chain • EPC = C

Longacres Hednesford

£60,000

• Auction T&C's Apply • No Upward Chain
• Spacious Ground Floor One Bedroom Apartment • Large Enclosed, Private Garden, Garage
• Shower Room • EPC =D

Packington Mews Cannock

£215,000

• Immaculately Modern Presented Detached House • Three Bedrooms
• Lounge, Dining Room and Conservatory • En Suite Shower Room & Family Bathroom
• Carport & Corner Plot Position • EPC = C

Lowland Road Cannock

- Renovated Throughout
- Three Bedrooms
- Large Dual Aspect Lounge
- Guest WC
- Enclosed Rear Garden with Storage
- Driveway
- NO CHAIN!
- EPC = F

£130,000

flint & co
flintandco.com 01543 624400

HEATH HAYES
STAFFORD STREET

- A much improved three bedroom
- Gas central heating and double glazed
- Lounge/diner,
- Refitted kitchen/diner
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Off road parking
- Awaiting EPC rating

£159,950

HEDNESFORD
LITTLEWORTH ROAD

- A traditional two bedroom house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, sitting room
- Kitchen
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garden and garage
- Awaiting EPC rating

£104,950

HEATH HAYES
STRAUSS DRIVE

- A spacious four bedroom
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen, dining room
- Utility, guest cloakroom
- Master with ensuite
- Shower room
- Garden to rear, driveway
- EPC rating C

£220,000 offers in excess of

CANNOCK
REDHILL ROAD

- One Bedroom
- Central heating
- Driveway, gated acess
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern bathroom
- Awaiting EPC rating
- NO CHAIN

£124,995

CANNOCK
ST AIDANS ROAD

- A two bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen/diner
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Garden to front
- Corner plot
- Enclosed rear garden
- Awaiting EPC rating

£124,950

HEATH HAYES
CANNOCK ROAD

- A traditional detached property
- Entrance hallway/study area
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen/diner
- Utility, Guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Refittted family bathroom
- Garden to rear off road parking
- EPC rating E

£260,000

HEDNESFORD
CHAFFINCH CLOSE

- A two bedroom semi detached bungalow
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted shower room
- Conservatory, carport
- Garden to rear and side
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£169,950

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

- Two bedroom Terraced
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Off road parking, gargae
- Town centre location
- Rear Garden
- EPC rating E

£135,000

CHESLYN HAY
STATION STREET

- A traditional two bedroom property
- Lounge, dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted first floor bathroom
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Garden to rear
- Viewing recommended
- Ideal first time buy
- EPC rating G

£129,950

CANNOCK
BERWICK DRIVE

- A three bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating
- Lounge/diner
- Conservatory, kitchen
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Refitted shower room
- Good sized rear garden
- Awaiting EPC rating

£129,950

CANNOCK
MANOR AVENUE

- Spacious three bedroom detached
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility room, cloakroom
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Awaiting EPC rating

£242,000

CANNOCK
RUMER HILL ROAD

- A spacious 3 bedroom detached
- Split level lounge/diner, Kitchen/diner
- Guest cloakroom, utility
- Sitting room and conservatory
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear, garage, driveway
- NO CHAIN
- Awaiting EPC rating

£230,000 Offers Over

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PROPERTY

Four-bedroom home on market with no chain

DB Roberts & Partners are pleased to present this four-bedroom link detached house in Knighton Road, Wimblebury.

The property is offered to the market with no onward chain and is on sale at £205,000.

A spokesperson for DB Roberts & Partners said: "Sat at the end of the cul-de-sac and a short distance from The Old Brickworks Nature Reserve, local schools and children's play park, is this fantastic

WIMBLEBURY
£205,00

home." Heath Hayes, Five Ways, St Peter's, Gorsemoor and St Joseph's primary schools are all within easy reach.

The property briefly comprises of a hallway, lounge, dining room and kitchen to the ground floor, with the four bedrooms and family bathroom to the first floor.

The kitchen boasts a range of wall-mounted and base units and has an archway through to the adjoining dining room.

Externally the home has a laid lawn to the front with driveway that leads to the garage and side access to the rear of the home where you will find the garden with a lawn and patio seating area.

Call selling agents DB Roberts on 01743 284990 to book an internal viewing.

Spacious two-bed bungalow comes with loft room

A spacious two-bedroomed detached bungalow, 30 Old Fallow Road, Cannock, is for sale through Boot & Son Estate Agents at £164,950.

It has an entrance porch, a lounge, dining kitchen, inner hall, two bedrooms, a refitted bathroom, a loft room and gardens.

In more detail the porch has an access door and stairs to the loft room, the lounge has a feature fire surround with a natural flame gas

CANNOCK
£164,950

fire, the dining kitchen has a range of units, drawers and laminate working surfaces and display cabinets, a sink, access door and a condensing boiler and plumbing for an automatic washing machine.

Of the two bedrooms, bedroom one has a cast iron fireplace. The refitted bathroom has a white suite of a low flush WC, pedestal hand basin, panelled bath with mixer taps and a shower attachment.

Outside the gardens incorporate lawns, paved pathways, a gravel driveway and a patio and the rear garden is enclosed with close board fencing with side gated access.

The front garden is raised and the property is set back from the road.

Contact Boot & Son on 01543 505454.

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CANNOCK
NEWHALL STREET

Modern Detached House	En Suite
Lounge	Bathroom
Kitchen Diner	Gas Central Heating
Guest WC	Double Glazing
3 Bedrooms	Allocated Parking
	EPC Rating C

£210,000

CANNOCK
NEWHALL STREET

Traditional Detached House	3 Bedrooms
Lounge	Bathroom
Kitchen Diner	Gas Central Heating
2nd Reception Room	Double Glazing
Guest WC	Allocated Parking
	EPC Rating D

£200,000

CHESLYN HAY
LITTLEWOOD LANE

Semi Detached House	Bathroom
Lounge	Gas Central Heating
Kitchen	Double Glazing
Utility Room	Rear Garden
4 Bedrooms	Driveway
	EPC Rating D

£190,000

WEDGES MILLS
THE MEADOWS

Town House	Conservatory
Lounge	GCH & DG
Kitchen	Rear Garden
3 Bedrooms	Parking
Bathroom	EPC Rating C
Guest WC	

£174,995

CHESLYN HAY
STATION STREET

Unfurnished	Bathroom
Terrace House	Gas Central Heating
Lounge	Double Glazing
Dining Room	Rear Garden
Kitchen	EPC Rating E
3 Bedrooms	

SSTC

HUNTINGTON
REDWING DRIVE

Terrace House	Front and Rear
Lounge	Gardens
Kitchen	Driveway
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating D
Bathroom	
Gas Central Heating	

£124,000

HEATH HAYES
SQUIRREL CLOSE

Unfurnished	GCH & DG
Detached House	Conservatory
Lounge	Garden
Kitchen	Parking
3 Bedrooms	EPC Rating E
Bathroom	

£750 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

NORTON CANES
CHURCH VALE

Unfurnished	Gas Central Heating
Detached Bungalow	Double Glazing
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen	Garage
3 Bedrooms	EPC Rating E
Bathroom	

£725 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEATH HAYES
SQUIRREL CLOSE

Unfurnished	Bathroom
Semi Detached House	Gas Central Heating
Through Lounge	Double Glazing
Kitchen	Rear Garden
3 Bedrooms	Garage
	EPC Rating E

£650 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
WOOTTONS COURT

2nd Floor Flat	Protected Access
Lounge	Allocated Parking
Kitchen	Sold with Sitting
1 Bedroom	Tenant
Bathroom	EPC Rating D
Electric Heating	

£74,995

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

INVESTMENT	Shower Room
PURCHASE	Double Glazing
Protected Access	Parking
Lounge	EPC Rating C
Kitchen	
1 Bedroom	

£71,995

WIMBLEBURY
HAMILTON CLOSE

First Floor Flat	Double Glazing
Lounge	Spacious Loft
Kitchen	Parking
1 Bedroom	EPC Rating D
Bathroom	
Electric Heating	

SSTC

HEDNESFORD
BROMLEY CLOSE

Unfurnished	Family Bathroom
Semi Detachd House	GCH & DG
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen Diner	Parking
3 Bedrooms	EPC Rating D
En Suite	

£650 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

BLOXWICH
STONEY LANE

Unfurnished	Gas Central Heating
Town House	Double Glazing
Lounge	Garden
Kitchen	Parking
3 Bedrooms	EPC Rating B
2 Bathrooms	

£650 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEDNESFORD
STAGBOROUGH WAY

Semi Detached	Gas Central Heating
Bungalow	Double Glazing
Lounge	Front & Rear Garden
Kitchen	Garage
2 Bedrooms	Driveway
Bathroom	EPC Rating D

£650 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

BRIDGTOWN
ROMAN COURT A5

Unfurnished	Electric Heating
Executive Apartments	Double Glazing
Open Plan Lounge	Parking
Kitchen	Awaiting EPC
2 Bedrooms	
Bathroom	

£625 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

Unfurnished	2 Bedrooms
Semi Detached House	Bathroom
Lounge	Gas Central Heating
Dining Room	Double Glazing
Kitchen	Rear Garden
	EPC Rating E

£595 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

BURNTWOOD
PRINCESS STREET

Unfurnished	Gas Central Heating
End Terrace House	Double Glazing
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen	EPC Rating D
2 Bedrooms	
Bathroom	

£125 pw & FEES - NO DSS

HEATH HAYES
VAN GOGH CLOSE

Unfurnished	Gas Central Heating
Town House	Double Glazing
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen	Parking
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating C
Bathroom	

£525 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

WIMBLEBURY
WATERLILY CLOSE

Unfurnished	Bathroom
Semi Detached House	Gas Central Heating
Lounge	Double Glazing
Kitchen	Rear Garden
2 Bedrooms	Garage
	EPC Rating C

£525 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEDNESFORD
MAYCROFT CLOSE

NEWLEY REFURBED	2 Bedrooms
Unfurnished	Bathroom
Back to Back House	GCH & DG
Lounge	Parking
Kitchen	Garden
	EPC Rating C

£475 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

PYE GREEN
PLANTATION ROAD

Unfurnished	Gas Central Heating
First Floor Flat	Rear Garden
Lounge	Parking
Kitchen	EPC Rating C
1 Bedroom	
Bathroom	

£400 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEDNESFORD
CEDAR CLOSE

Unfurnished	Gas Central Heating
Ground Floor Flat	Double Glazing
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen	EPC Rating C
1 Bedroom	
Bathroom	

£385 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

WIMBLEBURY
HAMILTON CLOSE

Unfurnished	Heating
Ground Floor Flat	Double Glazing
Open Plan Lounge	Parking
Kitchen	EPC Rating D
1 Bedroom	
Shower Room	

£375 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

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LITTLEWORTH ROAD, HEDNESFORD

- One Bed GFF
- Lounge
- Shower Room
- GCH/DG
- Off Road Parking
- Energy Rating D
- Sorry No DSS/Pets.

£400 pcm

WOOTTONS COURT, CANNOCK

- One Bed Flat
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- Allocated Parking
- Energy Rating C
- NO DSS/PETS

£450 pcm

BEVERLEY HILL, HEDNESFORD

- 2 Bed Semi
- Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- GCH/DG
- Garden/ Driveway
- EPC Rating E
- NO DSS/Pets.

£595 pcm

TRAFALGAR CLOSE, WIMBLEBURY

- Three Bed Semi
- Lounge, Guest WC
- Kitchen/Diner
- Bathroom, En-Suite
- GCH & DG
- Gardens, Driveway
- Energy Rating B
- NO DSS/PETS

£650 pcm

BEVERLEY HILL, HEDNESFORD

- Two Bed Semi
- Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Bathroom, GCH
- DG, Gardens
- Driveway
- Energy Rating E
- NO DSS/PETS

£650 pcm

OLD HEDNESFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

- A Fully Refurbished Detached Family Residence.
- Reception Hall, Guest WC, Lounge
- Impressive Kitchen/Diner, Utility
- Spacious Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Four Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- Integral Garage, Detached Garage, Driveway, Front, Side & Rear Gardens

£349,950

WATERMINT CLOSE, WIMBLEBURY

- An extremely well presented four bedroom detached family home.
- Guest WC, lounge, dining room, conservatory
- Re-Fitted Kitchen & Utility
- Additional sitting room
- Four bedrooms, en-suite
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden & Ample Off Road Parking

OIRO £250,000

PARTRIDGE CLOSE, HUNTINGTON

- A well presented four bedroom detached family home
- Guest WC, Lounge, Dining Room
- Family Room, Re-Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Four Good Sized Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted En-Suite & Family Bathroom
- Detached Garage & Ample Off

Offers in Excess of £250,000

TUTBURY CLOSE, HEATH HAYES

- An Extremely Well Presented Detached Bungalow positioned on a Corner Plot.
- Re-Fitted Kitchen, Lounge
- Re-Fitted Wet Room, Two Double Bedrooms
- Conservatory, Landscaped Rear Garden
- Ample Block Paved Driveway
- No Chain

OIRO £249,950

LIMEPIT LANE, CANNOCK

- A Well Presented Five Bed Three Storey Semi Detached House
- Guest WC, lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- Master Bedroom with En-suite
- Four Further Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom, Shower Room
- Carbarn & Driveway
- Rear Gardens

£230,000

RAWNSLEY ROAD ,HEDNESFORD

- Viewing Highly Recommended
- Reception Hall, Lounge
- Re-Fitted Kitchen, Diner, Bathroom
- Conservatory, Two DOUBLE bedrooms
- Study, Rear Gardens
- Detached Garage & Ample Driveway

offers over £200,000

PYE GREEN ROAD, CANNOCK

- A Beautifully Presented Four Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Breakfast-Kitchen
- Impressive Extended Lounge/Diner
- Guest WC, Utility
- Four Good Bedrooms, Re-Fitted Shower Room
- Ample Driveway and Rear Garden

£230,000

WALSALL ROAD, CHURCHBRIDGE

- An Extremely Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Reception Hall/ Dining Room, Lounge
- Modern Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms, Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Front and Delightful Rear Gardens
- Garage and Driveway

£210,000

CHURCH ROAD, NORTON CANES

- Well Presented Detached Family Home
- Family Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Well Stocked Rear Garden With Open Views
- Driveway & Garage

OIRO £199,950

WRENS CROFT, HEATH HAYES

- A Well Presented Semi Detached House
- Popular Residential Location Overlooking Nature Reserve
- Guest WC, Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Three Bedrooms
- En-Suite, Family Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces
- Rear Garden

OIRO £189,950

COPPERKINS ROAD, HEDNESFORD

- A Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Entrance Porch, Spacious Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room
- Workshop
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Rear Garden & Gravel Parking to front

£149,995

WALNUT DRIVE, CANNOCK

- A Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached House with NO UPWARD CHAIN
- Entrance Hall, Lounge
- Kitchen/ Diner
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Driveway, Carport & Garage
- Front and Rear Gardens

£135,000

GREIG COURT, HEATH HAYES

- A Well Presented Two Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Modern Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Modern Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces, Delightful Rear Garden

£129,950

UNION STREET, BRIDGTOWN

- Well presented ground floor apartment
- Lounge/Diner, 2 Double bedrooms
- Modern Kitchen
- En-suite & Bathroom
- Off road parking
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

OIEO £100,000

BROAD STREET, BRIDGTOWN

- A Spacious One Bed First Floor Flat
- GCH & D/G
- Lounge, Spacious Kitchen/ Diner
- One Bedroom with built in Wardrobes
- Bathroom
- Communal Rear Gardens
- NO CHAIN

£87,500

VINE COURT, CANNOCK

- Third floor retirement apartment
- Wide range of facilities within the complex
- Security intercom, Lift access
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms and wet room
- 24 hour care on hand
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

£25,000 25% Shared Ownership

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Hednesford Road
RUGELEY

Deceptively spacious five/six bedroom detached house / Spacious five/six bedroom detached house / First floor annexe offering a further bedroom, lounge and kitchenette / Large rear garden /

£350,000

2 Coach House Mews
RUGELEY

Unique Grade II listed coach house / Winding driveway leading through open parkland / Allocated parking space with further space to front / Separate double garage / Communal rear courtyard

£319,500

Newbury Road
NORTON CANES

Four bedroom detached house / Set on a good sized corner plot / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Modern fitted kitchen & bathrooms / Private rear garden

£300,000

Rawnsley Road
HEDNESFORD

Outstanding four bedroom detached family home / Picturesque semi rural location between Cannock Chase & Hednesford Hills / Charming private rear garden with direct access to Cannock Chase

Offers in Excess of £280,000

Bramwell Drive
HEDNESFORD

Outstanding & immaculately presented four bedroom town house / Occupying a large corner plot / High spec finish throughout / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Two en-suites

£280,000

Gorsemoor Road
HEATH HAYES

Immaculately presented and deceptively spacious four bedroom detached house / Set on large end plot / Generously extended on ground floor / Modern fitted high spec kitchen

£270,000

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Sale Price Achieved	Standard Estate Agent's Fee @ 2.16% Inc VAT	Lovett&Co Estate Agent Fee @ 0.9% Inc VAT	The Savings YOU will make with Lovett&Co.
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£150,000	£3,240	£1,425	£1,815
£200,000	£4,320	£1,900	£2,420
£300,000	£6,480	£2,860	£3,630
£500,000	£10,800	£4,760	£6,050

*Standard Estate Agents Fee Staffordshire @2.16% Inc VAT. Source. Rightmove (April 2017)

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Oak Woods
CANNOCK

Immaculately presented three bedroom detached house / Stunning open plan living area with kitchen, diner and sitting area / Show house finish through out / Quiet cul-de-sac

£240,000

Streets Lane
CHESLYN HAY

Well presented and superbly maintained four bedroom detached family home / Sought after location / Superb spacious open plan lounge-diner / Integral garage and driveway

Offers in Excess of £230,000

Truro Place
HEATH HAYES

Well presented three bedroom detached family home / Private south west facing rear garden with recently laid patio area / Superb open plan kitchen-diner with new fitted kitchen (2 years old) / Spacious

£225,000

Pendle Hill
HEDNESFORD

Well presented semi detached three bedroom house / Set over three storeys / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / Private rear garden / Superb top floor master bedroom

£210,000

Wade Lane
RUGELEY

Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Set on good sized corner plot / highly sought after area / Spacious lounge / Kitchen-diner / Good sized low maintenance rear garden

Offers in Excess of £210,000

Walsall Road
BRIDGTOWN

Spacious extended four bedroom detached house / Set on a large plot / Spacious reception rooms and bedrooms / Large private rear garden which is not overlooked,

Offers in Excess of £210,000

Belt Road
HEDNESFORD

Immaculately presented three bedroom detached family home / Set on a good sized corner plot / Recently undergone refurbishment / Superb open plan lounge-diner

Offers in Excess of £200,000

Elder Close
HEATH HAYES

Well presented three bedroom detached house / Set on quiet cul-de-sac / Planning permission to extend full length to the side with storys / Additional garage conversion / Spacious lounge & modern

£200,000

Hobby Way
HEATH HAYES

Immaculately presented three bedroom townhouse / Finished to an exceptionally high standard throughout / Set over three storeys / High spec fitted kitchen / Driveway for two vehicles and a detached garage

Offers in Excess of £200,000

Hednesford Road
HEATH HAYES

Extremely spacious three bedroom detached character property / Modern method of auction / Set on a large plot / Ideal for investors / Large rear garden stretching over 45 metres

Auction Guide Price £160,000

The Brambles
NORTON CANES

Two bedroom mid terraced house / Set back from the main road in a quiet residential area / Two allocated parking spaces / Lounge-diner / Modern finish / 2 Parking spaces

£140,000

Elder Close
HEATH HAYES

Two bedroom semi detached house / Set back from the road at the end of a private driveway / Spacious lounge and modern fitted kitchen-diner / Driveway for two vehicles / Good sized rear garden

Offers in Excess of £130,000

Church View
BRERETON

Charming two bedroom terraced cottage / Spacious lounge / Large double bedroom plus a further good sized single / Private rear courtyard / Off road parking

£120,000

Frank Rogers Walk
RUGELEY

Well presented one bedroom semi detached bungalow / Set back from the road in a quiet location / Double bedroom / Modern fitted shower room / Private rear garden

£100,000

Bettys Lane
NORTON CANES

Well presented one bedroom first floor self contained maisonette / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Superb open plan living area / Modern fitted kitchen, newly fitted bathroom / Double bedroom

Offers in Excess of £80,000

Longacres
RAWNSLEY

One bedroom first floor maisonette / Ideal for fist time buyers and investors / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Spacious lounge

£80,000

Victoria Street
CHADSMOOR

One bedroom maisonette / Situated on first floor / Completely renovated throughout / Enclosed rear garden / Access gate leading to front of property

Offers in the Region Of £69,950

Arran Close
CANNOCK

Two bedroom ground floor apartment / Property is being sold with a sitting tenant / Rental income of £495 PCM / Exciting investment opportunity / Spacious lounge

Offers in Excess of £67,000

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Great Wyrley Office - £500,000

GREAT WYRLEY, LOVE LANE

- Impressive detached residence
- Highly desirable location
- Superb kitchen / family room
- Good sized overall plot

5 | 4 | D

Burntwood Office - £499,000

LICHFIELD, TRENT VALLEY ROAD

- Extended detached residence
- Highly desirable location
- Conservatory
- Off road parking & garage

6 | 2 | D

Great Wyrley Office - Offers Over £350,000

GREAT WYRLEY, JACOBS HALL

- Spacious Detached Bungalow
- Private Plot & Mature Gardens
- Attractively Presented Throughout
- Garage & Driveway

3 | 1

Great Wyrley Office - £325,000

CHESLYN HAY, MOUNT PLEASANT

- Impressive self-build residence
- Immaculately presented interiors
- Three bedrooms with ensuites
- Viewing highly recommended

3 | 3 | C

Great Wyrley Office - £315,000

GREAT WYRLEY, WALSALL ROAD

- Detached Dormer Residence
- Generous Living Space
- Double Garage
- No Upward Chain

5 | 1 | D

Great Wyrley Office - £300,000

CHESLYN HAY, LITTLEWOOD ROAD

- Detached Period Cottage
- Sought After Location
- 3 Receptions
- Driveway

3 | 2 | D

Burntwood Office - £250,000

LICHFIELD, BROADBENT CLOSE

- Modern style mid town house
- Three storey accommodation
- Kitchen / diner
- Off road parking & garage

3 | 2 | B

Burntwood Office - £240,000

CHASE TERRACE, MORLEY ROAD

- Spacious dormer bungalow
- Prime residential location
- Open plan breakfast / diner
- Ample off road parking

4 | 1 | D

Burntwood Office - £199,950

BURNTWOOD, UNION STREET

- Double Fronted Detached Residence
- En Suite To Master
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking

3 | 2 | D

Burntwood Office - £195,000

CHASE TERRACE,NEW PLANT LANE

- Well presented semi
- Pleasant Cul-de-Sac location
- Lounge / diner. Conservatory
- Off road parking & garage

3 | 2 | D

Great Wyrley Office - £159,950

GREAT WYRLEY,LITTLEWOOD LANE

- Semi-Detached Bungalow
- In need of some modernisation
- Popular location
- Off Road Parking

2 | 1

Burntwood Office - £130,000

BURNTWOOD, UDEN HOUSE

- Modern 2nd floor apartment
- Immaculate interiors
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Allocated parking space

2 | 1 | B

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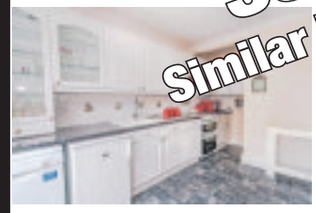
NEW

CANNOCK
ASCOT DRIVE



SSTC
Similar Required

- Large Corner Plot
- Hallway
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gardens
- Double Garage

£155,000

NEW

CHESLYN HAY
KESTRAL WAY

- Extended Link Detached
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Conservatory, Utility
- Refitted Shower Room
- 3 Bedrooms
- Garage
- Rear Garden
- Viewing Recommended

£249,000

REDUCED

HEDNESFORD
MOUNTSIDE STREET

- Traditional Semi
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Refitted Kitchen
- Utility Room
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden

£115,000

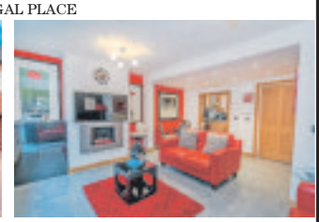
REDUCED

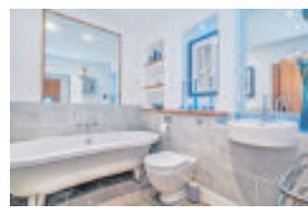
GREAT WYRLEY
BROADMEADOW LANE

- Through Hallway,
- Lounge, Dining Room,
- Kitchen, Utility Area/lean To
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Front And Rear Gardens
- Side Garden
- Offered With No Chain

£150,000

SHARESHILL
HAVERGAL PLACE



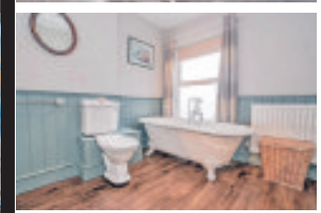


- Modern Town House
- Rural Location
- Guests WC
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Bed 1 - En-Suite
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Under-Floor Heating
- Det.Garage

£230,000

NEW

CHESLYN HAY
STATION STREET

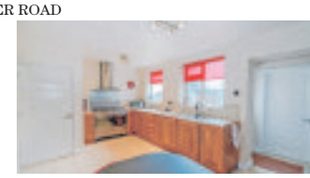


- Traditional Semi
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- 3 Bedrooms, Cellar
- En-Suite to Master
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Driveway
- Viewing Essential

£190,000

NEW

CANNOCK
HUNTER ROAD



- Deceptively Spacious
- Lounge
- Refitted Kitchen/diner
- Utlity Room, WC
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Viewing Recommended

£125,000

NEW

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON

- WELL PRESENTED AND IMPROVED
- CANNOCK TOWN CENTRE LOCATION
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- REFITTED KITCHEN
- GUEST WC
- FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM
- PARKING AND GARAGE TO THE REAR

£135,000

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Gainsbrook Crescent, Norton Canes

Offers Aroun £60,000

Semi Detached Property	40% Shared Ownership
Two Bedrooms	Front & Rear Gardens
Kitchen / Diner	EPC D

Coulthwaite Way, Rugeley

Offers Around £75,000

One Bedroom Apartment	Bathroom
Lounge	Off Road Parking
Kitchen/Diner	EPC D

Greenslade Grove, Hednesford

Offers Around £80,000

Well Presented Flat	Kitchen
One Bedroom	Communal Garden
Lounge	EPC D

Wolverhampton Road, Cannock

Offers Around £85,000

Ground Floor Apartment	Kitchen
One Bedroom	Off Road Parking
Lounge	EPC C

Union Street, Cannock

Offers Around £100,000

End Terrace Property	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	Bathroom
Lounge	EPC D

Bryans Way, Cannock

Offers Around £125,000

Semi Detached Property	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge / Diner	Awaiting EPC

Dartmouth Road, Cannock

Offers Around £130,000

Duplex Apartment	Bathroom
Two Bedrooms	Allocated Parking
Lounge/Kitchen	EPC B

Bank Street, Cannock

Offers Around £140,000

Terraced Property	En Suite
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	EPC F

Wimblebury Road, Heath Hayes

Offers Around £140,000

End Terrace Property	Off Road Parking
Three Bedrooms	NO CHAIN
Two Reception Rooms	EPC F

River View, Penklridge

Offers Around £151,875

New Build Property	Fitted Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	Shared Ownership
Lounge / Diner	Awaiting EPC

Barn Way, Cannock

Offers Around £150,000

Semi Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	NO CHAIN
Lounge	EPC C

Foxhill Close, Cannock

Offers Around £160,000

Semi Detached Property	Dining Room
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	EPC E

Glenthorne Drive, Walsall

Offers Around £190,000

Semi Detached Property	Garage
Four Bedrooms	Driveway
Lounge / Diner	EPC E

Lower Fufin Close, Hawksyard

Offers Aound £195,000

Semi Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	EPC B

Partridge Close, Cannock

Offers Around £215,000

Link Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge / Diner	Awaiting EPC

Station Road, Hednesford

Offers Around £235,000

Deatched Property	Rear Garden
Four Bedrooms	NO CHAIN
Lounge Area	EPC E

Badger Close, Huntington

Offers Around £260,000

Detached Property	Two Bathrooms
Four Bedrooms	Cul De Sac Location
Two Reception Rooms	Awaiting EPC

10 St Pauls Close, Heath Hayes

Offers Around £270,000

Detached Property	Kitchen. Utility
Four Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge, Dining Room	EPC D

Richardson Way

Offers Around £270,000

Detached Property	Conservatory
Four Bedrooms	NO CHAIN
Cinema Room	EPC C

Shugborough Way, Cannock

Offers Around £280,000

Detached Property	Conservatory
Four Bedrooms	Off Road Parking
Lounge	EPC D

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THE SUNDAY TIMES THE TIMES

Skoda Octavia vRS showing off!

By James Parker

For a hot estate the Skoda Octavia was a slow burn on me.

But after months living with this car I've come to truly appreciate it.

It has so many positive attributes I could write about but, for me, one stands head and shoulders above all others.

It's not the high-performance 2.0-litre 181bhp engine of our VRS model or the abundance of onboard tech. Instead, it's the level of thought that's clearly gone into making the Octavia a car for the everyman (and everywoman).

It's as though in a factory somewhere deep in the Czech Republic there's a clone of me on a mission to make life a little better and journeys a little more comfortable for my family.

They've thought deeply about how we'll use the car and the lifestyle we lead and have asked themselves what they can do to make the car work around that.

The end result may not be one big 'wow', as many of the solutions they've come up with are largely unnoticeable until they're needed. But I've found a smile flashing across my face many a time as I've presented the Octavia with a potential problem only to find the 'Simply Clever' folk at Skoda have already come up with the answer.

Whenever I have something I need to stow out of view, there's a conveniently placed compartment. When I need to hang something, there's a hook, and when I have something that may slide around the boot, they've even given me a set of neatly concealed Velcro holds that grip to the boot lining and stop objects from slipping. There's even a built-in ice scraper, tucked neatly inside the fuel cover, for those freezing cold mornings.

Folding the seats down is easy

It's much the same story inside the cockpit. In the back, there are two cup-holders built into the armrest and two USB ports to stop the kids squabbling. And again, there are more cleverly positioned hooks and pockets that, well, just make life with the Octavia that little bit better.

Taken in isolation, any one of these things is pretty small fry and inconsequential. But when added together, they combine to make the Skoda Octavia a great all-round car, whether you're someone who needs a motor that will comfortably eat up the motorway miles or you're a parent who needs a flexible and versatile vehicle that can cope with the demands of family life.

Our long-termer is the high-performance VRS model with sports seating, black interior and DSG box. It's powerful and great fun to drive – although I still think it needs to be cranked up a notch. Whether you need the extra power of the VRS is a question of personal preference – I could take it or leave it – but even in its sportiest spec the Octavia estate is refined, economical and offers an impressive MPG return.

Even in its sportiest spec the Octavia estate is refined, economical and offers an impressive MPG return

Inside, it's a pleasant place to while away the hours too. Infotainment-wise, there's everything you'd expect from a quality car in this bracket, and everything's well located and simple to use to boot.

For me, the opening panoramic glass roof is definitely worth having – even though it's an optional extra – as it really brightens what is otherwise a dark interior.

Were I to be putting my money down on a car that would meet all my needs and fit my lifestyle perfectly, the Octavia would be very high on my shopping list.

AT A GLANCE

MODEL: Skoda Octavia vRS Estate
PRICE: £35,655
ENGINE: 2.0-litre turbocharged diesel
POWER: 181bhp
TORQUE: 380Nm
MAX SPEED: 139mph

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1.2 White, Red Leather, P/S, C/L, E/W, Alloys **£5499**

10 MERCEDES C180 SPORT CGI BLUE-EFFICIENCY
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In White, P/S, C/L, E/W, A/C, Alloys
£6699

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Top used car buys

Analysis of the used car market by data experts at hpi shows that some vehicles are rising in value due to strong demand.

A combination of factors including the efficiency and low running cost of smaller city cars, a surge in demand for petrol, hybrids and electric vehicles and the continued popularity of SUVs has helped some vehicles to increase in value.

Experts at cap hpi report that this demand helped used car values rise by 0.4% in March with average values increased by 1.2% since the turn of the year, compared to a decline in values of 0.7% last year. The previous strongest year was 2014 when values increased by 0.8%.

A three-year-old Skoda Citigo with 30,000 miles is now worth around £700 more than the same model would have been worth a year ago. There is a similar picture for many other petrol cars of this size, with the Kia Picanto, SEAT Mii and Toyota Aygo all standing out.

A three-year-old Citigo bought in March 2017, with 30,000 miles on the clock, driven for a year adding a further 10,000 miles, would be worth close to £200 more than what the buyer paid for it.

The EV sector has shown similar strength with cars such as the Peugeot Ion, Renault Zoe, Smart Fortwo Electric and the Citroen C-Zero following a similar pattern,

Skoda's Citigo has risen in value

these being both EVs and city cars, hence the popularity.

SUVs now account for almost a third of all new car registrations – a considerable increase over the last 10 years. This increasing demand is replicated in the used car market, and values have held up well recently, particularly for medium and small-sized SUVs.

Derren Martin, head of current valuations at cap hpi, said: "What we are seeing is some cars in particular sectors increasing in value over a relatively short period. The scale of this is unprecedented as cars are generally regarded as a depreciating asset.

"Some consumers are now starting to reap the rewards of picking up a vehicle 12 months ago,

Some vehicles are rising in value due to demand

putting 10k miles on the clock and still seeing the vehicle's value rise very steadily

"The sectors showing the main areas of appreciating values continue to be city cars, superminis and lower medium-sized cars.

"Also, some petrol and hybrid SUV prices in the used market have shown real strength in recent months – there is strong demand and currently relatively low supply. Drivers are beginning to warm to EVs as confidence grows in availability and reliability.

"The increase in demand for smaller vehicles that are pushing up values is partly as a result of consumers downsizing but also a desire for petrol vehicles."

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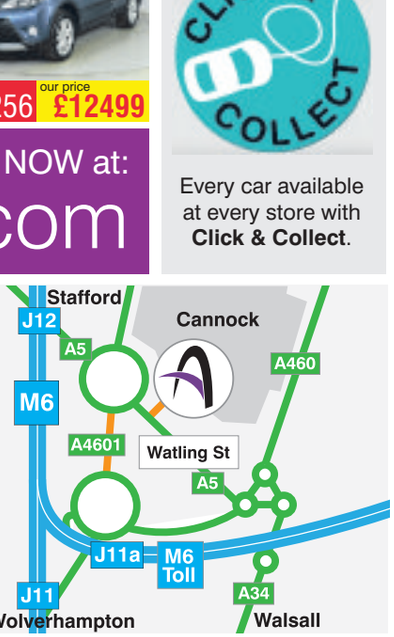

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki range mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km).
Suzuki Swift range: Urban 41.5-46.3 (6.8-6.1), Extra urban 57.6-64.2 (4.9-4.4), Combined 50.4-56.5 (5.6-5.0). CO_2 emissions 128g-116g/km.
The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. Offer subject to availability. Metallic paint charged at extra cost. Offers exclusive to Autosales. Stock vehicles only.

By Sharon Walters

What a delight, a car that is a world player but with a model specifically designed for British and European roads.

And my how you can appreciate that when driving about in Suzuki's simply super Swift. In order to suit the needs of European customers, Suzuki knew that simply designing and developing the new Swift in Japan would not be sufficient. So it turned to the roads of Europe, where teams of local evaluation drivers helped to hone the new car.

Testing of the chassis, the centrepiece of the Swift's evolution, started in January 2016 in the United Kingdom and Germany. Covering a total of more than 6,000 miles, the teams tested as many as 90 different suspension prototypes in an effort to meet the need for optimum steering feel together with providing supple and agile suspension for British roads.

The latest model arrived on our shores last June 12 years after it first docked. An initial drive back then along winding roads in the Peak District impressed but how would it cope with my country commute to and from the office and lengthy trips on the motorway? Simply super!

This supermini made a big impact during its earlier

The Swift has strong haunches

incarnations and the latest seems to be doing even better. There is more room for people and their luggage and it is faster off the mark. At the same time it is a little more refined and more powerful while also being more economic. It is dynamic and comfortable as well, what more could you ask for?

In a little more detail looks-wise it has a more impressive grille, LED daytime running lights and stronger haunches which give it more prominence on the road.

The Swift's extra space comes courtesy of a longer wheelbase which permitted the engineers to give more space in the cabin, especially for those in the back, and a bigger boot of 265 litres – a very good space for a car of this size whcih can easily cope with luggage for a holiday.

It's a dynamic drive with its lower and wider stance and feels very secure when tackling tight corners. It is also comfortable and enjoyed that motorway cruise much more than I expected a car of the Swift's size to do, as did I the driver.

Swift is available as a five-door model in SZ3, SZ-T and SZ5 grades.Standard equipment for all models in the range is comprehensive and the SZ3 model with 1.2-litre Dualjet engine and manual transmission will include six airbags, air conditioning, leather steering wheel, DAB radio with Bluetooth and four speakers, rear privacy glass, LED daytime running lights, 15-inch wheels, body coloured door mirrors and front electric windows.

A 90hp 1.2-litre four cylinder Dualjet engine offers CO2 emissions of 98g/km and 65.7mpg for the manual transmission model. And the 111PS 1.0-litre three cylinder Boosterjet turbo engine offers CO2 emissions of 104g/km and 61.4mpg for manual transmission model. This Boosterjet engine might appear small but it is remarkable with that power and torque more usually found in a diesel engine than a small petrol and fuel economy. Going through the gears is quick and easy and in top gear is very refined giving quite remarkable fuel use on that motorway marathon I undertook.

The Boosterjet is also available with Suzuki's SHVS mild hybrid system offering CO2 emissions of 97g/km and Suzuki's excellent ALLGRIP 'AUTO' 4WD system. four-wheel drive system is a well proven and simple fully automatic and permanent four-wheel drive layout which transfers additional torque to the rear wheels whe.

Inside, for a car so modestly priced, there is a decent finish and quality of trim and features include a centre console turned towards the driver, front seats with optimised shape and spring position with side bolsters. The facia is neat and tidy with sporty white accents and satin chrome with a basic black theme.

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Deaths

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENT
CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Please note that the deadline for our weekly Cannock Chronicle is 4pm every Friday, for the following weeks edition.

This is subject to change Bank Holidays.

Eg (4pm Thursday)

Cannock Reception will be closing at 4.30pm on a Friday.

ARBERY
Alfred
(Al)

Passed peacefully away on March 7, 2018, aged 85 years.

Funeral Service to take place on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at Stafford Crematorium, at 10.20pm.

Flowers welcome.

CO-OPERATIVE FUNERAL SERVICE
49 Park Road
Cannock
Telephone 01543 572644

BAKER
Val
nee Brookes

Of Heath Hayes, late of Two Gates, Tamworth.

Serving member of The Parish Council of Heath Hayes.

Passed away on March 24, 2018, aged 69 years.

The devoted Wife of David and beloved Mum of Vyvyen and Victoria, also a dear Friend.

Will be missed by all.

All Funeral Details from Funeral Directors.

The Funeral care has been entrusted to

MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Brindley House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879866

BATES
Gwladys Ceinwen Violet
(Cei)
nee Williams

Formerly Cope.

Of Hednesford.

Passed away peacefully on March 23, 2018, aged 89 years.

Will be lovingly missed by all Family and Friends.

A lovely end to a lovely life.

Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Thursday, April 12, at 12.30pm.

Dress as you wish.

Family flowers only please.

Donations if desired to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

Further inquiries to

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

POPE
Jean

Sadly passed away on March 17, 2018.

Funeral Service will take place at 3.30pm on Tuesday, April 10 at Stafford Crematorium.

Wife

In the Garden of beautiful memories where leaves fall like dew.

There's a rose that blooms forever in memory of you.

All my love Jerry.

X X X

Mum

If roses grow in Heaven please pick a bunch from us.

Place them in our Mothers arms and tell her there from us.

Tell her that we love and miss her and when she turns to smile.

Place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for a while.

Love you Mum.

From All the Family.

X X X

All our love

Mom

The anchor of our lifeforce you'll sustain, always in our hearts, you'll remain.

The root or our memories, forever flowing a luminous spirit, forever glowing.

Miss you Mom, more than words can ever say.

Love from Terry, Nicki, Jamie and Kieran.

X X

PRITCHARD
Jean

Sadly passed away on Monday, March 26, 2018, aged 83 years.

Jean was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at St Mark's Church, Great Wyrley at 1pm. Followed by a Burial at Great Wyrley Cemetery.

Family flowers only please.

Donations will be greatly appreciated for special schools, Saxon Hill Academy and Wightwick Hall School.

All inquiries

A J Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
67 Station Street,
Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG
01922 410612

SMITHYMAN
Andrew
(Panda)

Passed away peacefully on Sunday, March 25, 2018, aged 54 years.

Andrew was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Friday, April 13, 2018, at Bushbury Crematorium, West Chapel at 2.15pm.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, will be greatly appreciated for Macmillan Nurses.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1DH
01543 502322

SPRUCE
Horace

July 26, 1936 to March 12, 2018.

The Family of Horace Leslie Spruce are sad to announce that he passed away suddenly but peacefully at home on the afternoon of March 12.

He will be sadly missed by his Wife of sixty years, Sylvia and all of his Family.

Rest in peace Horace.

Your loving Wife Sylvia.

Rest in peace Dad.

All our love, Angela and Chris, Mark and Mandie and Grandsons Oscar and Oliver. The Funeral care has been entrusted to

MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Brindley House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879866

WALKER
Keith Graham

Passed away peacefully in his sleep at Stafford Hospital on March 19, 2018.

Service will be held at Bushbury Crematorium, Wolverhampton on April 9 at 1.45pm.

Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Air Ambulance c/o
SELLMANS
Funeral Directors
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01543 502322.

Keith will be sadly missed by all Family and Friends.

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Deaths

WILLDIGG

Stephen Peter

Passed away peacefully at home with his Family by his side on March 12, 2018, aged 68.

Funeral Service on Monday, April 9, 2018 at Stafford Crematorium, 2.30pm.

Family flowers only.

Donations forwarded to St Giles Hospice.

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Acknowledgements

CROWSLEY

Raymond

Joan and the Family would like to thank everyone who attended Rays Funeral at St. Marks Church on Tuesday March 20, for their kindness and support and for flowers and cards.

Donations of £110 will be sent to St. Giles in his name.

Thank you to A. J. Sellman for all their help and kindness.

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JACKSON-HATELEY CYCLES
www.jacksonhateleycycles.co.uk
BONANZA CLEARANCE SALE
UP TO 20% OFF CYCLES!
ALL SPARES & ACCESSORIES AT DISCOUNT PRICE
24 hour repair service | All cycles fully guaranteed
HATELEY'S
Simply the best
Ring Dave on
01902 782344
458 Stafford Road, Oxley, Wolverhampton

Caravans/ Motorhomes

Holiday Home for Sale - 2014
Willerby Vacation 2 bed, 6 berth pre-loved £16,995
On a Superb family friendly 5 star park with outstanding facilities Nr Welshpool.
www.gwernyddhall.co.uk
Call Steve or Rob
01686 650236.

SWIFT CORNICHE 2001
With Motormover, full awning, solar panel and much more. Ready to go.
£2,900 o.n.o.
01922 638667.

holidays

Caravan Holidays

SEA SIDE SOMERSET HOLIDAY caravans to let, all overlook the sea. Half price OAP offer. 01984631781 www.helwellbay.com

TOWYN N.WALES, Caravans to let, small site, good rates, all facilities 01745 334897 or 07766 306230.

Caravan Parks

NEW & USED STATIC CARAVANS for sale on award winning Country Holiday Park on the Staffordshire / Shropshire border. For details call 01902 851 302 www.oaklandholidaypark.co.uk

Devon

PAIGNTON
The Kingswinford
April Offers
2 nights, 2 people B&B only £109
or 2 nights room only, £89
Room only available
FAMILY ROOMS AVAILABLE
CHILD DISCOUNTS
All rooms en suite
100 yards to beach and pier
Contractors Welcome
01803 558358
www.kingswinfordhotel.com

Self Catering Holidays

BURNHAM-ON-SEA
Self Catering Holiday Apartments
Disabled Facilities
Pet Friendly
01278 794111
www.GoSomerset.co.uk

Travel Abroad

READERS ARE REMINDED to check with any Advertisers that their holiday costs are fully covered by a recognised bonding or insurance scheme.

Yorkshire

YORKSHIRE DALES
Meadow Holidays
Country Cottages / Suites in Wensleydale
"Weeks from £209 per couple
"Weekends just £99 per couple
Families Welcome
Walk in scenic countryside by waterfalls or visit historic market towns with friendly Inns
Brochure (24hrs) 01969 624145
email: rita@meadowholidays.com
www.meadowholidays.com

mind, body & soul

Massage

THE TANNING ROOMS
Full body massage 30 mins £22, 40 mins £27, 1 hour £37
SHOWER FACILITIES
Call: 01902 782960

Music Shop

CORNETS BARITONE EUPHONIUM BASS PERCUSSION REQUIRED
For brass band in Walsall.
Contact
walsallbrassband@virginmedia.com
Telephone 07954 158858.

Sports & Leisure

FreeAds
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
To sell items upto £250.
Online at
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

what's on

Antique Fairs

ANTIQUE/ VINTAGE FAIR
CALFHEATH HALL, CALFHEATH CANNOCK, WV10 7DW
SUNDAY APRIL 8TH
9 AM - 3 PM
07783 680 627

3 Home & Services

Antiques

Louis Taylor
Fine Art Auctioneers & Valuers
Antique valuations first Wednesday of every month, 10am - 2pm
Ancient High House Museum, Stafford, ST16 2JA
01782 638100

Furniture

Furniture not sold, why not donate it?
katharine house hospice
Reg charity number: 1011712
We can turn your quality used furniture into 1st class care for patients at Katharine House
Call us now on 01543 466885
for details or to arrange a FREE collection

In Your Garden

HARDWOOD OVAL PATIO Table, 6 chairs (2 carvers) plus cushions, parasol, stand, 3 gas burner barbecue £150 the lot. 01543 378675.

C B SHEDS & FENCING
We supply & fit. Free quotes.
Call: 01922 720270
We also supply sleepers and decking

CHESTNUT SHEDS AND FENCING LTD
Manufacturers and Suppliers of Heavy Duty Fully Tanalised Sheds, Summerhouses & All Garden Buildings.
Super Quality/Competitive Prices
Bespoke Buildings Fitting Available
Unit 17, Oak Street, Quarry Bank DY5 2JH
01384 913422/01384 569779
www.chestnutshedsandfencing.co.uk

SHEDS NOW
Quality Garden Buildings
Made to Measure at Competitive prices
Sheds * Summerhouses * Planters * Arbours and more..
Now at Swan Pit, Gnosall, Stafford ST20 0EE
www.shedsnow.co.uk
0800 698 0093

SLABS 450mm x 450mm RIVEN FACED, only £1.87 inc. VAT. Ranton Building Supplies: 01543 276006.

Items For Sale

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
That the Business Advertisements(Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

CORRUGATED GALVANISED Sheets. New, £8 can deliver. Also box profile and PVC/polycarb. David Broxton on 07834 489558.

A GENUINE LADY BUYER
PAYS TOP CASH ON ANY TYPE OF GOLD
Any type of gold wanted, e.g 9 carat gold. Jewellery from £300+ per oz. Any amount collected. Gold coins, silver, medals, bank notes, oriental items, anytging old, interesting or collectable
Call Pauline on 01922 495066 or 07971 783206

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Items Wanted

CASH PAID NOW!
WANTED TOOLS
Hand Tools, Anything considered
01543 452 491
07539 340307

ANTIQUES WANTED
Furniture, Clocks, China, Medals, Coins, Old wind-up Wrist and Pocket Watches Paintings, Gold/Silver/Costume Jewellery
CHASE ANTIQUES
(Over 40 Years Trading)
01543 572367 07831 818024

A BEST CASH PRICE PAID
for antiques, vintage furniture, leather-winged arm chairs & chesterfield setees.
01902 454144 or 0121 5263375

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

Loans

READERS ARE REMINDED that they may require professional advice before entering into obligations.

t.v. / home entertainment

Service

CLASSIFIEDS "JUST WHAT I NEEDED"

"TV Link are really pleased with their response from their Classified Campaign"
Bill - TV Link

For great business results call
01902 319 191
ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

specialists at your service

Aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
AERIALS FITTED FROM £79.99
01902 858191 • 01384 429166
01543 439095 • 01922 716029

CLASSIFIEDS "JUST WHAT I NEEDED"

"I am very pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising Contract"
Steve - AA Digital Aerials

For great business results call
01902 319 191
ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

Alarms/Security

PREMIER ALARMS
Supplied and Fitted £249
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

Building Services

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS
All Building & Roofing Work
Driveways, Landscaping
Over 40 year exp | All work guaranteed
Free Quotes: 07837 994465
01902 579 592

Building Supplies

RECLAIMED BRICKS, Tiles, Slates, Oakbeams, Flooring, York Stone. Cawarden 01889 574066. sales@cawardenreclaim.co.uk

Carpet Fitters

A CARPETS & VINYLS supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820598 / 07941 619694.

Double Glazing Repairs

S.P.S replace misted glass, locks, hinges, windows, doors, guaranteed. OAP discount. 07983 704889

External Rendering /Insulation

RENDER OR INSULATION 20 year insurance backed guarantee. Free Quotes 01902 495 699 www.ecotexcontracts.co.uk

Fencing

PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
10 Bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards **£795**
Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, W'bury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

BUSHBURY FENCING AND GATES
SUPPLY AND FITTING SPECIALISTS
FREE QUOTES
01902 827000

GARDEN KINGS
All Garden work and maintenance, Fencing, Tree Cutting, Turfing and much more
Call: Steve for free quote
07774449900 / 01902 238653

CLASSIFIEDS "JUST WHAT I NEEDED"

"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representatives and would recommend them to anyone! They have done a very professional job with my website so I get online enquiries as well now."
Michael- Portway Fencing

For great business results call
01902 319 191
ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

Gardening Services

Landywood Tree & Landscaping Services
All garden work, tree felling/lopping, pruning, hedges trimmed, turf, patios, fencing, block-paving etc.
www.landywoodlandscaping.co.uk
01922 898 710 / 07973 177 976

Gas Fitting

READERS ARE ADVISED To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered.

It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

Home Improvements

RTD Builders & Home Improvements
• All general building work
• Extensions & alterations • Kitchens & Bathrooms • UPVC Windows
• Brickwalls & Patios
Call Bob on 07710 611963
davisr@gmail.com

House Clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. **07852 172641 / 07710 360327 / 01902 534021**

ALL ROUND CLEARANCE
Professional family run business
House clearances full or part, also garages, sheds etc.
Telephone Kev
07794 912844

Oven Cleaning

Express & Star
OVEN CLEANERS!
CLAIM YOUR FREE ADVERT
(T&Cs Apply)
Call Claire Smith: 01902 319661
claire.smith@expressandstar.co.uk

Family ANNOUNCEMENTS

HERE TO SHARE YOUR TODAYS, TOMORROWS AND YESTERDAYS

Whether you're celebrating a special occasion or remembering a loved one - we're here to help.

Just call us on 01902 317878

Our lines are open between 8.30am and 5.30pm Monday to Friday. Closed Saturdays and Bank Holidays

DAILY DEADLINES

- Before 4.00pm Monday to Friday for the next day's edition.
- Before 4.30pm Friday for Monday.
- Subject to change Bank Holidays

YOU CAN NOW BOOK ONLINE AT
BOOKANAD.EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK
OR CALL US ON 01902 317878

Painters/Decorators

Express & Star

DECORATORS!

CLAIM YOUR FREE ADVERT

(T&Cs Apply)

Call Claire Smith: 01902 319661
claire.smith@expressandstar.co.uk

DECORACE Painter & Decorator. Quality work at reasonable prices. OAP discounts. Free quotes: 01902 635258 07876 135302.

LADY PAINTER & DECORATOR City and guild qualified. local, reliable, affordable. 07916 399490.

Kitchen Fitters

THE KITCHEN FITTER
- Over 20 years' experience in kitchen fitting & project managing.
- Specialist in fitting all retail kitchens.
- Very competitive price.
- Quick quotes over the phone can be given if preferred.
- Supply now available!

CONTACT MATT ON 07881 654 757 or 01543 373 233

Plans Prepared

ADAM DESIGN, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

Plastering

MINT PLASTERING
For the very best in plastering and rendering, full rooms inc materials from 110. Halls, stairs and landings from 200
30 years experience.
Free quotes. All work guaranteed
01543 327130 / 07519 694516

M&S PLASTERING & BUILDING SERVICES
Home Garden Improvements.
Over 30 Years Experience
Mark or Sara: 07741 770897

Plumbing & Heating

TAD PLUMBING & HEATING
For all your plumbing needs.
30 years experience
24 HOUR CALL OUT, NO FEE!
Call Trevor on 07791 319397
www.tadplumbingandheatingwolverhampton.co.uk

PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN No job too small or large. Call Will for a free quote on: 07521 411108.

Removals

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

KT HOUSE REMOVALS
12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
07771 727119

KC REMOVALS We beat any quote, full or part loads, all areas. Anything considered. Call on 07867 862227.

Roofing

CLIFF NICHOLLS
Roofing & Scaffolding
Rubber Roofing
37 years experience
FREEPHONE (0800) 220 - 729

Roofing

MG ROOFING
Flat Roofing, Tiling, Roof Repairs, Fascias and Gutters.
Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.
www.mgroofingwestmidlands.co.uk

Upholstery

MR B'S UPHOLSTERY
RE- UPHOLSTERING OF SOFA'S, DINING FURNITURE, CARAVANS, CAR RETRIMS AND MORE.
www.mrbsupholstery.co.uk
01543 500677 07738 851601

4 Pets & Animals

Equestrian Corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information, this is a legal requirement.

Guns & Dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

5 Business & Farming

Business Opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

6 Property

Accommodation To Let

NOTICE TO READERS
It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

Properties Wanted

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME!
FAST 4 Your House CASH

BLACK COUNTRY HOMES

You agree the price, we buy the house...
- NO AGENTS FEES
- COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- FREE SOLICITORS
- ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

0800 999 999 6
01384 500 500
30 yrs
www.black-countryhomes.co.uk * subject to terms

CASH NOW Wolverhampton properties **FOR YOUR HOUSE**
UP TO £25,000 CASH ADVANCE NOW (in 24hrs)
We can buy your house in 7 days
• Free Solicitors • No Fees • Any House • Any Condition
0800 389 6788 01902 628047
Lines open 24 hours a day 7 days a week
Terms applicable

Yes! HOMEBUYERS
We will buy your house fast!
Free Valuation? Yes! Any House? Yes!
Fast Sale? Yes! Any Location? Yes!
No Fees? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!
FREE, GUARANTEED, instant offer today!
Call 01543 547 807
or text "Cash" to 66777
yeshomebuyers.com

Overseas Property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

7 Jobs

Building & Construction

HOD CARRIER required. Must have CSCS card. Cannock area. Call 07989 349535.

Part Time - General

PART-TIME COUNTER STAFF for busy fish & chip shop in Huntington, WS12, immediate start. Experience preferable but not essential. Call Jag 07442 274007/ 01543 572347.

8 Motoring

Cars Over £1500

MUST BE SEEN

FIAT 500
Red,
MoT'd, FSH,
only 19,000 miles,
immaculate condition.
£3,000
01902 631739.

Courses

BIRMINGHAM: 5-6 May (also 5-6 Sept.)
WOLVERHAMPTON: 25-26 July (also 17-18 Nov.)
STOKE-ON-TRENT: 6-7 August TELFORD: 8-9 August
Learn how to take blood
TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST
Introduction to Phlebotomy
TWO DAY COURSE - NATIONALLY RECOGNISED
- Allied Healthcare Career Path
- Accredited (advanced) qualification
- No previous experience required

ACCREDITED ocn
For more info. or to book online: www.geopace.com
High demand in: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - MOD - Research

jobs.expressandstar.com
REAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

FIAT 500 DIESEL BY DESIGN (model not fuel)
2011, 55,600 miles, Diesel green metallic, EW, stop/start, AC, Bluetooth, usb, glass roof, CD player, CL, MOT, 1 previous owner, alloys, tinted rear windows, spare wheel, tool kit, fsh.
£4,800 o.n.o
07918 621300 (no text)

HYUNDAI TUCSON CRDT
2005, 95,000 Miles, electric windows, air con, fsh, MoT, metallic paint, central locking, cruise control, pas, diesel, sunroof, CD, personal plate
£1,995.00
07976 653388

BARGAIN

KIA VENGA ECO DYNAMICS
2012, 1.4, dark blue, 5-dr, 1 previous owner.
Sale due to retired from driving, 19,000 miles.
£4,995.
07494 990356.

Cars Under £1500

FORD FIESTA 1250, 2005, 22,000 miles, one owner, serviced at main agents. £1,150. 07881 605581.

PEUGEOT 307
2007, 67,000 miles, black, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, long MoT, metallic paint, central locking, PAS, Alloys, CD
£1,350 ono
07812248314

ECONOMICAL

VW BEETLE
51 reg,
MoT'd.
Good condition.
£625 ono.
Telephone 07864 842076.

Motorbikes

ALL BIKES WANTED Anything considered. Pristine, non runners, barn finds, unfinished projects Highways 07971 793661 or 01902 773608.

ALL BIKES WANTED Anything considered. Pristine, non runners, barn finds, unfinished projects Highways 07971 793661 or 01902 773608.

Highway MOTORCYCLES
WANTED Clean Used Bikes
MOT While-U-Wait
No MoT Test Fee
APRIL SPECIAL
** MOT £29.65**
OIL & OIL FILTER CHANGE FROM £29.99
QUICK FIT TYRES
**QUICK FIT CHAIN & SPROCKETS **
PHONE FOR BEST PRICES
MOSELEY STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON
01902 773608
highway-motorcycles.co.uk

Scrap Vehicles

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

Vehicles Wanted

CARS WANTED
DEAD OR ALIVE!
Runners/ Non Runners, MOT Failures.
Can Collect. Cash Waiting!
Classic Cars, Scrap Cars, Motoring Memorabilia and Garage Tools Wanted!
Call 07790 032224
01902 823933

MOT's

MOTs ONLY £29.50
formula one autocentres
CANNOCK WS11 0BN
01543 50 20 00
F1AUTOCENTRES.COM

CROWN MOTORS
Guaranteed best price for your unwanted cars and vans
07903 549849
buyer will call

9 Local Information

Public Notices

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE
Royanz Ltd of 41 Orchard Lane, Shareshill, Wolverhampton WV10 7QT is applying to change an existing licence as follows:
To add an operating centre to keep 1 goods vehicles and 1 trailers at HGV Repairs (Cannock) Ltd, Littleton Drive, Huntington, Cannock Staffordshire WS12 4TS.
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.
Dated: 5th April 2018

THE COUNCIL IS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING PROPOSALS

Cannock Chase COUNCIL

Case Officer – Richard Sunter
Location: Heron Court, Heron Street, Rugeley, WS152DZ
CH/15/0416 - Residential development (Comprising a new four story block of 8 no 2-bedroom apartments and a pair of 3 bed semi-detached dwellings) with associated parking (Outline with access only) – Amended Description.

Case Officer – Audrey Lewis
Location: Land adjacent to Rugeley Cricket Club, Chaseley Road, Rugeley, WS152LQ
CH/18/106 - Change of use from agricultural land to cricket playing field

Case Officer – Richard Sunter

Location: Common Farm, 427, Pye Green Road/Limepit Lane, CANNOCK, WS12 4HS

CH/18/121 - Residential development comprising 52 no. dwellings including access, landscaping, public open space, and demolition of all existing buildings

All applications may be inspected electronically at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock.

Applications relating to Rugeley and Brereton may also be inspected by paper file at the Rugeley Area Housing Office, Anson Street, Rugeley.

The Council has published a Service Charter for publicity and information about planning applications and a Code of Conduct for the Planning Process both of which are obtainable from Council Offices free of charge.

If you wish to make comments or representations about any of the above proposals you should do so in writing to the Planning Services Manager, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG or by emailing to developmentcontrol@cannockchasedc.gov.uk by 19/04/2018 Please include a daytime telephone number in your reply and quote the appropriate reference when calling or writing.

tel 01543 462621 www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk

Department for Transport

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

The Secretary of State gives notice of an Order made under Section 247 of the above Act entitled "The Stopping up of Highway (West Midlands) (No.8) Order 2018" authorising the stopping up of a western part width of Wolgarston Way at Penkridge, in the District of South Staffordshire to enable development as permitted by South Staffordshire District Council, reference 17/00759/FUL.

Copies of the Order may be obtained, free of charge, from the Secretary of State, National Transport Casework Team, Tyneside House, Skinnerburn Road, Newcastle Business Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7AR or nationalcasework@dft.gsi.gov.uk (quoting NATTRAN/WM/S247/3174) and may be inspected during normal opening hours at Penkridge Parish Council, Haling Dene Centre, Cannock Road, Penkridge ST19 5DT.

Any person aggrieved by or desiring to question the validity of or any provision within the Order, on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the above Act or that any requirement or regulation made has not been complied with, may, within 6 weeks of 05 April 2018 apply to the High Court for the suspension or quashing of the Order or of any provision included.

G Patrick, Casework Manager

Public Notices

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2017-19

HIGH SPEED RAIL (WEST MIDLANDS – CREWE) BILL ADDITIONAL PROVISION (MARCH 2018) AND NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTARY ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that it is intended that the Select Committee of the House of Commons which is considering this Bill should consider certain amendments to the Bill for the following amongst other purposes:

1. Amendments to authorise revised proposals for the construction of works and acquisition of lands:

County of Staffordshire, District of Lichfield, Parishes of Kings Bromley and Alrewas,
- *Land required for the realignment of a fuel pipeline diversion (Work No. 4)*

Parish of Kings Bromley,
- *Land required for utility works and for access for construction and maintenance*

Parish of Armitage with Handsacre,
- *Land required for access for construction and maintenance*

Parish of Mavesyn Ridware,
- *Realignment of Pipe Lane (Work No. 15A)*
- *Realignment of Uttoxeter Road and Common Lane (Work No. 15D)*
- *An access road between Common Lane and Pipe Lane (Work No. 15E)*
- *Land required for utility works, worksite, access for construction and highway works*

Parish of Colton,
- *Land required for utility and highway works*

District of Cannock Chase, Parish of Brereton and Ravenhill,
- *Land required for access for construction and maintenance*

Borough of Stafford, Parish of Colwich,
- *Land required for utility works and for access for construction and maintenance*

Parish of Ingestre,
- *Land required for utility works*

Parish of Tixall,
- *Land required for access for construction and maintenance*

Parish of Hopton and Coton,
- *Land required for utility works and for access for construction and maintenance*

Parish of Marston,
- *Land required for utility works*

Parish of Stone Rural,
- *Land for the realignment of an access road off the A51 (Work No. 72)*
- *Land required for utility works and for access for construction and maintenance*

Parishes of Stone Rural and Swynnerton,
- *Land required for the construction of railways (Works Nos. 62 and 71)*

Parish of Stone,
- *Land required for utility works*

Parish of Swynnerton,
- *A road between the A51 The Rowe and Bent Lane (Work No. 87A)*
- *Land required for environmental mitigation, worksite, access for construction and maintenance and utility works*

Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Parish of Betley,
- *Land required for utility works*

County of Cheshire, Borough of Cheshire East, Parish of Checkley cum Wrinehill,
- *Land required for utility works*

Parish of Blakenhall,
- *Land required for utility works*

Parish of Chorlton,
- *Land required for utility works and for access for construction and maintenance*

Parish of Basford,
- *Land required for environmental mitigation, highway works, worksite and for access for construction and maintenance*

Parish of Weston,
- *Land required for utility works*

Parish of Shavington cum Gresty,
- *Land required for utility works*

Town of Crewe,
- *Land required for access for construction and maintenance*

Town of Sandbach,
- *Land required for access for construction and maintenance*

2. In connection with the construction of the works specified in 1 above, provision for the stopping up or diversion of the public footpaths and bridleways specified in Schedule 1 to this notice.

Plans and Sections, with a Book of Reference to those Plans, relating to the proposed Amendments are available for public inspection at the office and libraries referred to in Parts I and II of Schedule 2 to this Notice.

An Environmental Statement relating to the Amendments (ES) and Supplementary Environmental Statement (SES) together with a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) are also available for public inspection at each of the offices and libraries mentioned in Parts I and II of Schedule 2 to this notice and for inspection at the following office: High Speed Two (HS2) Ltd, 5th floor, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT, Tel: 08081 434 434, Email:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk, www.gov.uk/hs2.

Copies of the proposed Amendments together with copies of the Bill are available for public inspection at each of the office and libraries mentioned in Parts I and II of Schedule 2 to this notice and for inspection at the following office: High Speed Two (HS2) Ltd, 5th floor, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT, Tel: 08081 434 434, Email: HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk, www.gov.uk/hs2.

Copies of the ES, SES and NTS and copies of the proposed Amendments together with copies of the Bill are available for sale from High Speed Two (HS2) Limited, 5th floor, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT, Tel: 08081 434 434, Email: HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk, www.gov.uk/hs2.

The proposed Amendments and the Bill are available on the UK Parliament's website at www.parliament.uk. The Plans and Sections, ES, SES and NTS are available on the High Speed 2 (HS2) Limited website at www.gov.uk/hs2. Specialist technical reports relating to the ES and SES are also available at www.gov.uk/hs2.

Any person who wishes to make comments on the ES and SES should send them either by post to: FREEPOST HS2 PHASE 2A March 2018 or by email to: HS2Phase2aAPMarch2018@ipsos.com, on or before 14 May 2018.

Please note: if you wish to send your response by recorded delivery or special delivery, please telephone the HS2 Ltd Helpdesk on 08081 434 434 or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk to arrange this.

Anyone wishing to send comments should note that responses will be published on a publicly-accessible website in due course, but the names, addresses and signatures of individuals will not be published. As it is not possible for the substance of responses to be checked to ascertain whether they contain other personal data, you should not include information in your response that could identify you unless you are content for it to be made public.

If you do not want any of your response to be published you should clearly mark it as "Confidential" in the "subject" of the email or at the top of your letter. However please note the following two paragraphs.

If you want the information you provide to be treated as confidential, you should be aware that all information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to disclosure in accordance with access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004). Under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with confidentiality obligations. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain in your response why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If a request for disclosure of the information you provide is received full account will be taken of your explanation, but no assurance can be given that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department for Transport or High Speed (HS2) Limited.

Please note that all responses received, whether marked Confidential or not, will be passed on in full to the Houses of Parliament and their appointed Assessor, who will analyse the responses and make a report to Parliament. That report will not contain your personal data.

Submitting comments to the Secretary of State does not affect the entitlement of persons to make objections to the proposed Amendments by submitting a petition to the House of Commons referred to below.

The Bill has been introduced in the House of Commons as a public Bill. Objection to the proposed Amendments may be made by submitting a petition against them in person at the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1P 0AA, online through the Select Committee website at http://www.parliament.uk/HS2-Phase2a-Committee, by post to the Private Bill Office, House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1P 0AA or e-mail to prbohoc@parliament.uk.

In accordance with Private Business Standing Order 171B (4), the Chairman of Ways and Means has decided that any such Petition must be submitted so that it is received not later than 1pm on Friday 27 April 2018.

In the House of Lords, objection to the Bill may be made by submitting a Petition against it in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments within a period decided by the Chairman of Committees which is not less than 25 days after the Bill receives its first reading in that House.

Information about the deposit of such Petitions may be obtained from either the Private Bill Office, House of Commons (tel: 020 7219 3250, email: prbohoc@parliament.uk, www.parliament.uk/bills), the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords (tel: 020 7219 3231, email: hlprivatebills@parliament.uk, www.parliament.uk/bills), or from the undermentioned Parliamentary Agents (tel: 020 7593 5000, www.gov.uk/hs2).

DATED: 28 March 2018

DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT, Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 4DR.

Winckworth Sherwood LLP
Parliamentary Agents, Minerva House
5 Montague Close, London SE1 9BB

Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP
Parliamentary Agents, One Wood Street,
London EC2V 7WS

SCHEDULE 1

Area	Footpath or bridleway to be stopped up or diverted	Permanent/ temporary
County of Staffordshire		
District of Lichfield		
Parish of Kings Bromley	Footpath Kings Bromley 3	Temporary
Parish of Mavesyn Ridware	Footpath Mavesyn Ridware 31	Temporary
	Footpath Mavesyn Ridware 38	Temporary
Borough of Stafford		
Parish of Colwich	Bridleway Colwich 23 (Moreton Lane)	Temporary
	Bridleway Colwich 35 (Coley Lane)	Temporary
	Footpath Colwich 36	Temporary
	Footpath Colwich 56	Temporary
Parish of Hopton and Coton	Footpath Hopton and Coton 0.1535	Temporary
	Footpath Hopton and Coton 23	Temporary
Parish of Marston	Footpath Marston 9	Temporary
Parish of Stone Rural	Bridleway Stone Rural 0.1135	Temporary
Parish of Swynnerton	Bridleway Swynnerton 39	Temporary
	Footpath Swynnerton 17	Temporary
	Footpath Swynnerton 27	Temporary
	Footpath Swynnerton 38	Temporary
	Footpath Swynnerton 10	Temporary
	Footpath Swynnerton 58	Temporary
County of Cheshire		
Borough of Cheshire East		
Parish of Blakenhall	Footpath Blakenhall 13	Temporary
Parish of Chorlton	Footpath Chorlton 1	Temporary
	Footpath Chorlton 8	Temporary
	Footpath Chorlton 9	Temporary
	Footpath Chorlton 16	Temporary
Parish of Basford	Footpath Basford 1	Temporary
	Footpath Basford 11	Temporary
	Footpath Basford 12	Temporary
Town of Sandbach	Footpath Sandbach 51	Permanent

SCHEDULE 2
PART I

Officers with whom the Plans and Sections, Book of Reference, Environmental Statement relating to the Amendments, Supplementary Environmental Statement and Non-Technical Summary and proposed Amendments together with a copy of the Bill have been deposited for inspection.

In Staffordshire –
- HS2 Project Manager, Staffordshire County Council, Wedgwood Building, Block A, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH
- Head of Economic Growth, Lichfield District Council, District Council House, Frog Lane, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 6YZ
- Chief Executive, East Staffordshire Borough Council, The Maltsters, Wetmore, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1LS
- Managing Director, Cannock Chase District Council, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1BG
- Head of Economic Development and Planning, Stafford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford, ST16 3AQ
- Head of Planning and Development, Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council, The Guildhall, High Street, Newcastle, Staffordshire, ST5 1PW
- Parish Clerk, Alrewas Parish Council, c/o Lichfield Library, The Friary, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 6QG
- Parish Clerk, King's Bromley Parish Council, c/o Lichfield Library, The Friary, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 6QG
- Parish Clerk, Armitage with Handsacre Parish Council, c/o Rugeley Library, 12 Anson Street, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2BB
- Parish Clerk, Mavesyn Ridware Parish Council, c/o Rugeley Library, 12 Anson Street, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2BB
- Parish Clerk, Colton Parish Council, c/o Rugeley Library, 12 Anson Street, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2BB
- Parish Clerk, Brereton and Ravenhill Parish Council, 37 Leofric Close, Kings Bromley, Burton on Trent, DE13 7JP
- Parish Clerk, Colwich Parish Council, Parish Centre, St. Mary's Road, Little Haywood, Staffordshire, ST18 0TX
- Parish Clerk, Ingestre with Tixall Parish Council, 2 The Hanyards, Tixall, Stafford, ST18 0XY
- Parish Clerk, Hopton and Coton Parish Council, The Village Hall, Wilmore Hill Lane, ST18 0AW
- Parish Clerk, Marston Parish Meeting, Elm Cottage, Yarlet Lane, Marston, Stafford, ST18 9ST
- Parish Clerk, Stone Rural Parish Council, Council Office, Moddershall, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 8TG
- Assistant Town Clerk, Business and Finance, Stone Town Council, 15 Station Road, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 8JP
- Parish Clerk, Swynnerton Parish Council, c/o Stone Library, High Street, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 8AT
- Parish Clerk, Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Parish Council, c/o Crewe Library, Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 2BB

In Shropshire –
- Strategic Transport and Contracts Manager, Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

In Cheshire East –
- Business Intelligence Manager - Research and Consultation, Cheshire East Council, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Cheshire, CW11 1HZ
- Parish Clerk, Doddington and District Parish Council, c/o Crewe Library, Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 2BB
- Parish Clerk, Hough and Chorlton Parish Council, c/o Crewe Library, Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 2BB
- Parish Clerk, Weston and Basford Parish Council, c/o Crewe Library, Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 2BB
- Parish Clerk, Shavington cum Gresty Parish Council, c/o Crewe Library, Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 2BB
- Deputy Town Clerk, Crewe Town Council, 1 Chantry Court, Forge Street, Crewe, CW1 2DL
- Chairman, Sandbach Town Council, c/o Sandbach Library, The Commons, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 1FJ

PART II

Libraries where the Plans and Sections, Book of Reference, Environmental Statement relating to the Amendments, Supplementary Environmental Statement and Non-Technical Summary and proposed Amendments together with a copy of the Bill have been deposited for public inspection.
- Lichfield Library, The Friary, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 6QG
- Brereton Library, Talbot Road, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 1AU
- Rugeley Library, 12 Anson Street, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 2BB
- Stafford Library, Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, Staffordshire, ST16 2DH
- Stone Library, High Street, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 8AT
- Eccleshall Library, 20 High Street, Eccleshall, Staffordshire, ST21 6BZ
- Newcastle Library, Ironmarket, Newcastle-under-Lyme, ST15 1AT
- Market Drayton Library, Cheshire Street, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 1PH
- Crewe Library, Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 2BB
- Sandbach Library, The Commons, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 1FJ

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Golf club call-up for new young members

A GOLF club is to host a junior recruitment evening to encourage children to get into the sport. Oxley Park Golf Club, in Stafford Road, will host the event for youngsters aged six and over on Friday, April 20, from 6.30pm.

The club is keen to recruit new members and encourage children to keep active. Craig Thomas, head professional at the club, said of the initiative: "We have invited children we work with through the junior clubs and our members' children and grandchildren to come and join us.

"We have reduced the cost of our junior membership to encourage them into sport. It gets people more active. A lot of the younger generation think golf is seen as an old man's sport – and we are trying to turn that around.

"At the event children will be engaging in fun games and there will be coaching on that evening. We can also talk to parents about the opportunities available for juniors at the club."

Anyone interested in attending can call Craig on 01902 773989.

Battle of Baggies as boxers line up

TOMMY Langford and Jason Welborn meet at Walsall Town Hall for the British Middleweight Title on Friday, May 4.

The pair, both massive West Bromwich Albion fans, will battle it out for the Lord Lonsdale Belt in front of a sell-out crowd on BCB Promotions' Neutral Ground: Battle of the Baggies.

Champion Langford collected the strap in 2016 with a comprehensive victory over Sam Sheedy before successfully defending the belt against Jack Arnfield earlier this year. Welborn, back with BCB Promotions, claimed the WBC International Silver Title last year and will be looking to add the British Title to his increasing cabinet.

"This is a massive fight," said BCB's Head of Boxing, Errol Johnson. "Tommy and Jason are two of the best middleweights in the country.

"Tommy is well known for being an Albion fan and Jason is a massive Baggie too so it adds a little bit of spice to the fight. The whole of West Bromwich and the surrounding areas will want to be at this one."

Tennis club serves up free coaching

A WOLVERHAMPTON tennis club is serving up free coaching as it looks to increase its membership. The eight-week coaching course, staged at Linden Lea Tennis Club, is aimed at anyone, of any ability, over 21 years of age.

Sessions start at 7.45pm on Wednesday, April 25, and will be led by an approved Lawn Tennis Association coach.

The course is open for a maximum of 12 players. The club is also offering as an alternative, an invitation to join in 'Mix-in Tennis' on Tuesdays at 6.30pm during May which is also free.

To become a member of Linden Lea Tennis Club the first year's subscription is only £60, as opposed to the normal membership fee of £90.

To enrol on the coaching course, visit the club – at Compton Park within the Wolves Academy complex – on Sunday April 22 at 3pm.

Alternatively, anyone interested can contact Alan Hughes, by telephone on 01902 425599 or via email at achughes@talktalk.net

Ready to the flag on the Gold Coast

In action as Dominique gets stuck in

This is what makes hard work worth it

"IT'S times like this that make all the hard work worth it." The words of Dudley-born Dominique Allen, who has flown out to the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast after making the Team England basketball squad.

The 28-year-old landed in Australia after a 23-hour flight, to meet up with all the English athletes.

Allen and the rest of the squad were taking part in the a 10-day camp in Brisbane before the opening tip-off this week.

"We found out a few weeks ago but it was really weird because we didn't know what time the team would be announced," said Allen. "Everyone was checking their emails every few seconds all day – and I didn't officially find out until 10pm.

"We were all texting each other but when I saw my name on the list I was so happy. It was really special when were all given our new England kits – I didn't want to take it out the plastic!

"It never gets old, getting that phone call or email, putting on the jersey. I've never been to a Commonwealth Games either and it's also nice representing England too."

The Gold Coast Games mark the first time basketball has been included in the Commonwealths since 2006, when men and women's teams both came away with a bronze medal.

Seeded

Both basketball teams will compete in preliminary matches in Townsville before the semi-finals and medal matches take place on the Gold Coast. Team England women are in the seeded group up against Australia, Canada and Mozambique.

The top two teams in each seeded group (Pool A) progress to the semi-finals whilst the bottom two play-off against the top two teams from the unseeded group (Pool B) for the two remaining semi-final spots.

Selection for the women's team was made during the Great Britain's Eurobasket qualifiers, held in November and last month.

Allen, who still lives in Dudley and works in Birmingham as an assistant project manager at Atkins Civil Engineering, said: "We have the same coach for GB and England, so however well we performed in those decided if we would make the England squad. We didn't have a specific camp or anything like the men.

"We have won two out of the four Eurobasket games too so we're in a good position to qualify for that, with two more home games left to play in November."

Allen attended Lutley Primary School and Windsor High School, both in Halesowen, before studying A-levels in Newcastle. Allen, whose father, Clive, was also an England international and is now head of basketball development at the West Bromwich Albion academy, said the team's overall goal was to come back with a medal.

"I first started playing for England at U14 and U16 level and then headed out for the University Games in China in 2011," she said. "Next year it was the Olympics in London with Team GB, which was also the first time I'd played with the senior squad and made the senior team.

"Since then I've mostly played with the GB squad since 2012 and I've got more than 70 caps.

"I've never been to Australia before but having played in the Olympics I remember what the Olympic Village was like and meeting up with all the other athletes.

"Things like that really make all the hard work worthwhile and to play the Commonwealths has always been a dream of mine."

Allen's journey to the top has been far from easy too as she commutes from her Dudley home to train with the Manchester Mystics two to three times a week, with Women's British Basketball League matches at weekends, all while holding down a full-time job.

"I've played in Manchester for two years. We won the WBBL Cup final last year and we're constantly improving," she said.

"It's hard work, especially the commuting. I still in live in Dudley and work in Birmingham, so I have to travel up to Manchester to train – and then there's games at the weekends.

"Sometimes I can get picked up if the team is travelling through the Midlands but pretty much every game is an away game for me."

SPORTING FEATURE

By James Driver-Fisher

"We were all texting each other but when I saw my name on the list I was so happy. It was really special when were all given our new England kits – I didn't want to take it out the plastic!

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Sport

Dominique's looking to net basketball gold

Page 51

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Victory the reward for fans' efforts

Chasetown 2 Romulus 0

IN the only Evo-Stik South fixture to go ahead on the day, Chasetown rewarded their fans' hard work in getting the pitch playable by banking a holiday victory.

As the game got under way, Romulus tested keeper Curtis Pond with two efforts that he was equal to, and eventually Chasetown took some control.

Jack Langston was an inch away from giving his side the lead, his shot squirming under the body of keeper Billy Spink, who somehow got back to claw the ball off the line, and a defender cleared before Jake Lovatt could pounce.

Lovatt then headed narrowly over with a looping effort on the half-hour.

The breakthrough goal came on 33 minutes. Danny Cocks sped into the penalty area and fed Langston.

The skipper helped it on to George Cater, who showed tremendous composure to dink the ball over the keeper.

Just before the break, the hosts doubled their lead. Langston's shot was flying goalwards, and a deflection off the head of Cater wrong-footed Spink.

Romulus forced a low save from Pond at the start of the second half as Yohan Rutty-Smith fired towards the bottom corner.

Cater thought he had his hat-trick with a confident finish, only to be denied the match ball by an assistant referee's flag.

Chasetown thanked everyone who helped to get the game on, after a deluge of overnight rain left pitches throughout the Midlands waterlogged.

"It's been achieved thanks to the help of the modern technology of emailing and Twitter," Scholars chairman Mike Joiner said.

Scholars hit for six, and miss a penalty

Stamford 6 Chasetown 0

CHASETOWN'S play-off hopes were dealt a blow with this defeat. To compound matters, Scholars missed a penalty with Jack Langston firing over after Danny Cocks was brought down.

The hosts took the lead after five minutes. Eliot Putman fired goalwards but Curtis Pond could only keep it out as far as Bradley Fortnam-Tomlinson, who tapped into an empty net.

The lead was doubled on 20 minutes. Pond came out to try to meet a header but didn't get there and Rob Morgan looped his effort home. It was three before the half-hour as Jordan Smith beat the offside trap to head home.

Five minutes after the break, Stamford broke down a Chasetown attack and Fortnam-Tomlinson took the ball on his chest and volleyed past Pond.

The hosts made it five with Bradley Wells driving home low along the ground and Stamford extended their lead to six as substitute Liam Adams broke through unchallenged.

Jazmin would love to bob back to first love

Jazmin Sawyers

JAZMIN Sawyers pines for a return to bobsleigh, but wants to add to her achievements in long jump at the Commonwealth Games.

Walsall-based Sawyers heads into the event in Australia's Gold Coast with a silver medal from Glasgow 2014 to her name, plus silver from the 2016 European Championships in Amsterdam.

Prior to those long jump medals, the Staffordshire-born 23-year-old, daughter of former Staffordshire Police Chief Constable Jane Swayers, claimed silver, with Mica McNeill, in the two-girl bobsleigh at the 2012 Winter Youth Olympics in Innsbruck.

Sawyers has been 'keeping an eye' on the sport and admits she misses competing in it, something she has every intention of doing again one day.

But she has also stressed she is happy with the decision she made to focus, for a period, on long jump instead. "I do miss bobsleigh," she said. "That's not to say I don't love long jump – I really do. But I do hope to go back to bobsleigh. I ideally want to achieve more in long jump first and then go back."

"Long jump has been my priority since 2012. I'm happy with the choice I made. I'm really happy to be in athletics and to be going to the Commonwealth Games."

Sawyers is also a talented singer and appeared on The Voice last year. Her vocals feature on a new version of 'Jerusalem', England's official Games anthem.

PLAY-OFF HOPES APPEAR DASHED

Witton Albion 3 Hednesford Town 0

ANY hopes of Hednesford making a late push for the play-offs were virtually extinguished following this defeat against another side chasing the top five.

Struggling with injuries, the Pitmen could only name four substitutes.

However, they started the better, with Tom Thorley sweeping home a cross after two minutes, only to be flagged offside.

Five minutes later the hosts were in front as a ball into the Town box wasn't cleared and Rob Hopley fired home right-footed from 10 yards.

The hosts were now on top and Town goalkeeper James Wren was forced into a smart save from Tom Owens three minutes later before the shot stopper denied Will Jones after he rose highest at the far post.

The second goal came in the 20th minute when Albion were awarded a penalty which Steven Tames calmly placed into the top right corner.

In reply, although Hednesford had plenty of the ball they forced little in terms of chances with Joe Fitzpatrick being the closest but neither of his shots tested Calvin Hare in the home goal. Two minutes before half-time Wren had to react quickly to claim a looping effort from Owens.

The Pitmen were forced into an interval substitution with Matt Curley being forced off with a foot injury that saw him leave the ground on crutches. Hednesford almost reduced the arrears two minutes into the second half as Danny Glover produced a great overhead kick which went inches wide.

Danny Glover was stretchered off after clashing with Witton's Calvin Hare

In the 55th minute Ben Bailey had to react quickest to clear right in front of his own goal after Tames did well down the left fro Witton.

Four minutes later there was a lengthy stoppage after Glover and Witton keeper Calvin Hare clashed, with the Pitmen striker eventually being forced off with a back injury.

In the 64th minute Jordan Fitzpatrick saw a goal-bound effort cleared away as Hednesford continued to press for a way back into the game. However, they were nearly caught out in the 70th minute, only for Wren to make a smart save to deny Hopley as the striker looked to put the game beyond the Pitmen.

Although the Pitmen continued to enjoy plenty of possession they didn't really test Hare too much, with the final move lacking a killer pass. Witton struck again when Hopley rose highest to head into the bottom corner in the 83rd minute and end the game as a contest.

Hednesford should have reduced the arrears when Jim Lawrie stole the ball off Hare but on the stretch he could only shoot wide.

Hednesford's derby against Rushall Olympic on Easter Monday was called off due to a waterlogged Keys Park pitch. That game would have been the first of five consecutive home fixtures for the Pitmen, the next being tonight (Thursday) against Buxton (7.45pm) before another league match against Stourbridge on Saturday (3pm).

Next week, they take on Stoke City in the Staffordshire Senior Cup on Tuesday and Atherton Collieries on Thursday (both 7.45pm).

Keates sees positives in Pompey loss

WALSALL boss Dean Keates says he is looking for his side to display the same levels of commitment and desire as they did in the loss to Portsmouth.

The Saddlers lost 1-0 at home to Pompey on Saturday in what was Keates' first match in the dugout since replacing the sacked Jon Whitney.

Walsall had to defend for long spells during their defeat to the south coast side but looked assured until Gareth Evans popped up with a winner 10 minutes from time.

And after working hard to improve his team's defensive shape, Keates believes there were positives to take forward from that loss.

"We worked hard to be more compact and more organised so that was a positive for us," the Saddlers hero turned boss said. "Portsmouth had a lot of the ball. But they didn't really split us, they didn't hurt us too much.

"They had a couple of opportunities, they sent one or two balls across the six-yard box. But the lads were in a the right positions a lot of the time.

"But you need a little bit of luck. In the build-up, I think if Dev (Nicky Devlin) shows a little bit more composure with his clearance, the goal wouldn't have happened.

Easter Monday's fixture at Bradford City was called off because of a waterlogged pitch, giving Keates and his players extra time to prepare for the Bury game at the Banks's Stadium on Saturday (3pm kick-off).

Marksman shows Hayes no mercy

Heath Hayes 2 Heather St John 5

AFTER a great effort to get the Coppice Ground playable on Saturday, Heath Hayes welcomed in-form Heather St John, who chalked up an 11-0 midweek win at Bolehall in which Simeon Cobourne scored five – and he proved a thorn in the hosts' side here.

Hayes took the lead on 15 minutes when Mark Potis prodded home but seven minutes later Coborne levelled. Hayes made the perfect start in the second half, Potis notching his second, but Cobourne won a penalty which Deli Ali converted. Cobourne completed his hat-trick after Ben Minshull made it four.

★★★

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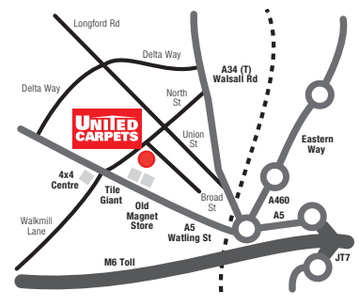

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